TOKYO
RAVENS 6
STORY BY
KOUHEI AZANO
ART BY
ATSUSHI SUZUMI
CHARACTER DESIGN BY
SUMIHEI

CHAPTER 20
SUPPRESSION
FOR THE LONGEST TIME, I COULDN'T STAND IT.
YO!
IT'S BEEN A WHILE, TOJI!
YOU'VE GOT SOME FREE TIME, RIGHT?
MY DOCTOR'S HAPPY-GO-LUCKY SON...
IN HIS HEAD, HE MUST HAVE BEEN LOOKING DOWN ON A HALF-OGRE LIKE ME.
I HATED THE WAY HE LOOKED AT ME.
TO--?
CRACK!

CHAPTER 26
SUPPRESSION
TOKYO RAVENS
STORY: KOUHEI AZANO ART: ATSUSHI SUZUMI CHARACTER DESIGN: SUMIHEI

CHAPTER 26
SUPPRESSION
TOKYO RAVENS
STORY: KOUHEI AZANO ART: ATSUSHI SUZUMI CHARACTER DESIGN: SUMIHEI

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I TOOK OUT ALL MY DARKEST FEELINGS ON HIM...
I PUNCHED ...
...AND KICKED...
...AND FELT BET-TER.
...FOR SOME REASON, THAT NIGHT...
...TEARS RAN DOWN MY FACE AS I LAUGHED.
WELL, I SHOULD HAVE FELT BETTER, BUT...
...SHOWED UP AGAIN FIRST THING THE NEXT MORNING. STILL BRUISED AND BEATEN.
PAYBACK TIME.
AND THEN...
...THAT FACE THAT I THOUGHT I'D NEVER SEE AGAIN...

WHAM!
THUMP
...!
WHAT'S WRONG, HALF-OGRE?
LOST ALL YOUR ENERGY FROM YESTERDAY?

SIGH...
I DUNNO WHY...
SNF
...BUT I FEEL LIKE WE'RE MEANT TO BE FRIENDS, NO MATTER WHAT
THOSE WORDS...

WHOOOOM
...HAVE BEEN LODGED IN MY HEART...
...EVER SINCE THAT DAY.
I CAN'T SEEM TO PULL THEM OUT.
SO...
...I'LL ACCEPT THEM.
I'LL STOP FIGHTING AND FACE THEM.
WHOOOOOOM
...I HAD FRIENDS WHO REACHED OUT TO ME INSTEAD OF ABANDONING ME.
EVEN WHEN I SEEMED BEYOND SAVING...

A TERRIFY-ING OGRE...
KRK
...LIKE ME...
...WHO JUST MIGHT...
KRKK
...HAVE A REAL LIFE AND A FUTURE.
!
THAT'S IT! GO, YUKI-KAZE!
WHOOOOOOOM
?!
Pfft
GEEZ...
WHAT AN IDIOT.

GRAHH!
WELL, FINE.
THE PULSE OF AN OGRE.
KRKK
MY PULSE IS RACING.
SPIN
I'LL GIVE IT SOMETHING TO PREY ON.
HARU-TORA!!
WHOOOOOOM

WHOOOM
VWOOSH!
ZIP
SCREEOWW!!

WHOOOM
HOKU-TO!
よし〜きたっ!!
Right! Here it comes!
HA!
WHOOOOM
RRAA
AA
AA
AA
AAH!

SMACK!
WHOOM!
GUH...
...NGH!
GRAHH...
GK-KK-KK
AHH!

WHOOSH!
CAW!!
HE CON-
TROLLED
THE POWER
OF THE
HALF-OGRE
EMBEDDED
WITHIN!!
CAW!!
WOW!
HE'S
AMAZING!!
VRRRRRR

EAT THIS!!
GWUN!

VRRRRRR!
BA-DOOM!

BA-DOOM!

VRRRRR!

RUMBLE...
RUSTLE
WOBBLE...
KRRK
DAMMIT!
IT STILL WASN'T ENOUGH ?!
WHEEZE
GASP
GRAAA...
BA-SHOOM!
AAAHHHHRRR!
KRK-HK
WHUMP!
QIYI QIYI, SPINNING SHAPES OUT OF FORMLESS CLOUDS.
FLUTTER...

GRAAA...
BA-SHOOM!
AAAHHHHRRR!
KRK-KK
WHUMP!

RUMBLE...
RUSTLE
WOBBLE...
KRKIK
DAMMIT!
IT STILL WASN'T ENOUGH ?!
WHEEZE
GASP
QIYI QIYI, SPINNING SHAPES OUT OF FORMLESS CLOUDS.
FLUTTER...

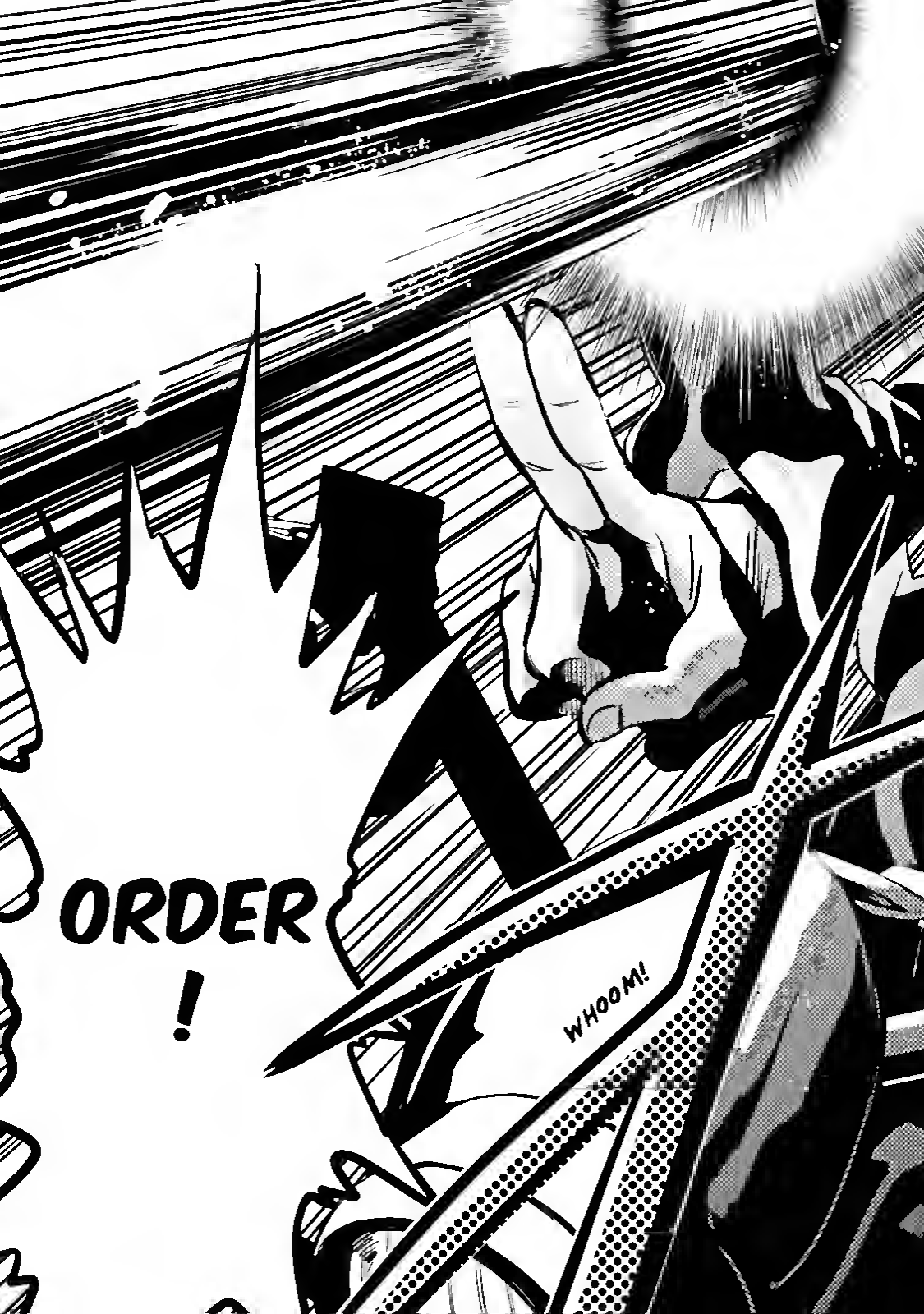
FLUTTER...
QIYI QIYI, HEAR OUR PRAYER!
CRACK
THE FIRSTBORN SON OF ALL THE WORLD...
...PIERCING THROUGH THE MANTRAS...
FLUTTER
..REACHING THE HEAVENS...
...FELT BY THE CREATOR GOD.
FLUTTER...

THE FIRSTBORN SON OF ALL THE WORLD...
...PIERCING THROUGH THE MANTRAS...
FLUTTER
...REACHING THE HEAVENS...
...FELT BY THE CREATOR GOD.
FLUTTER...

FLUTTER...
QIYI QIYI, HEAR OUR PRAYER!
CRACK

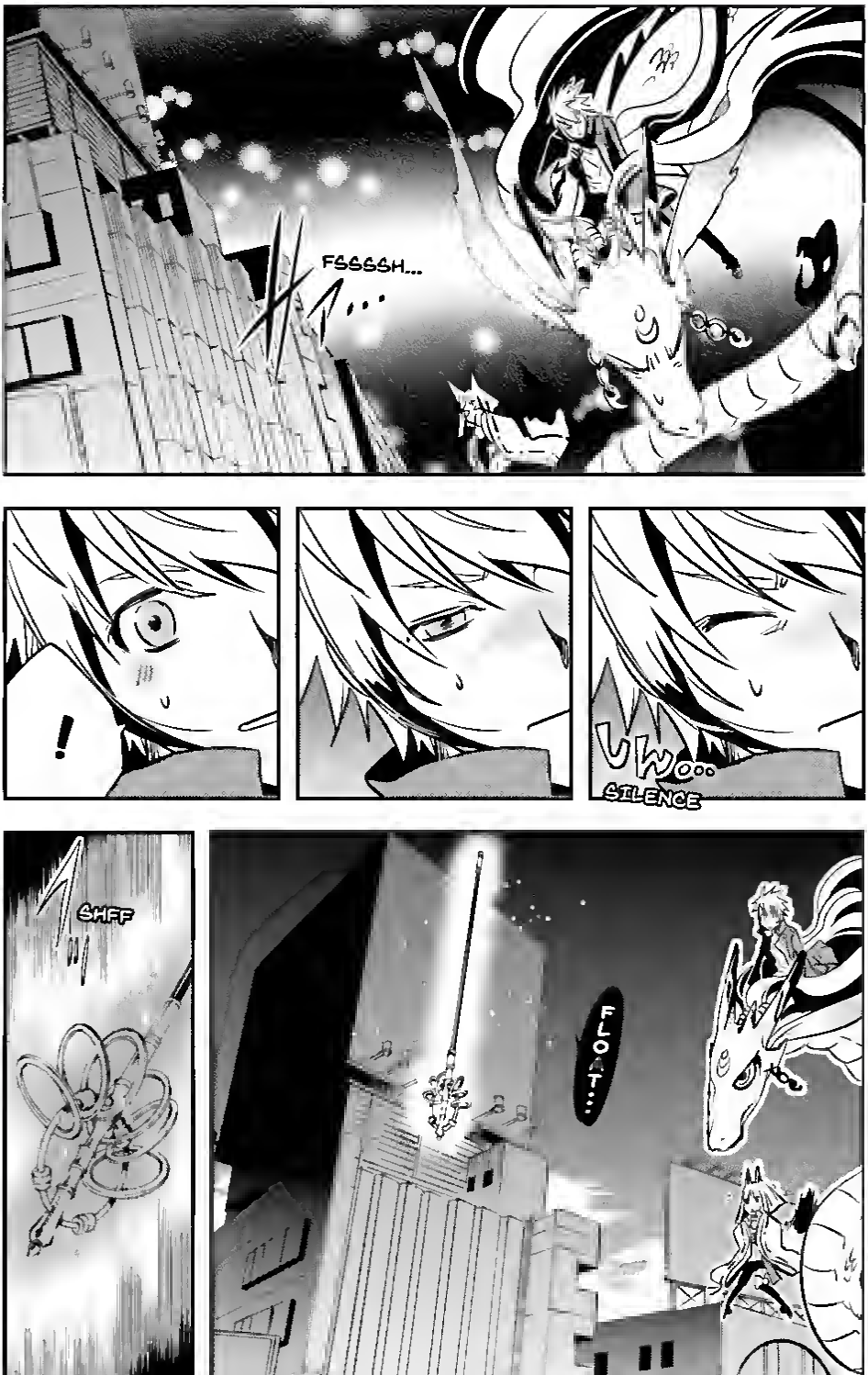
PURIFY THIS EVIL MIASMA BY THE POWER...
TWEEE
..OF THE CREATOR GOD, RULER OF THE HEAVENS.
WHOOM!
ORDER!

PURIFY THIS EVIL MIASMA BY THE POWER...
FWEEE
...OF THE CREATOR GOD, RULER OF THE HEAVENS.


ORDER
!
WHOOM!

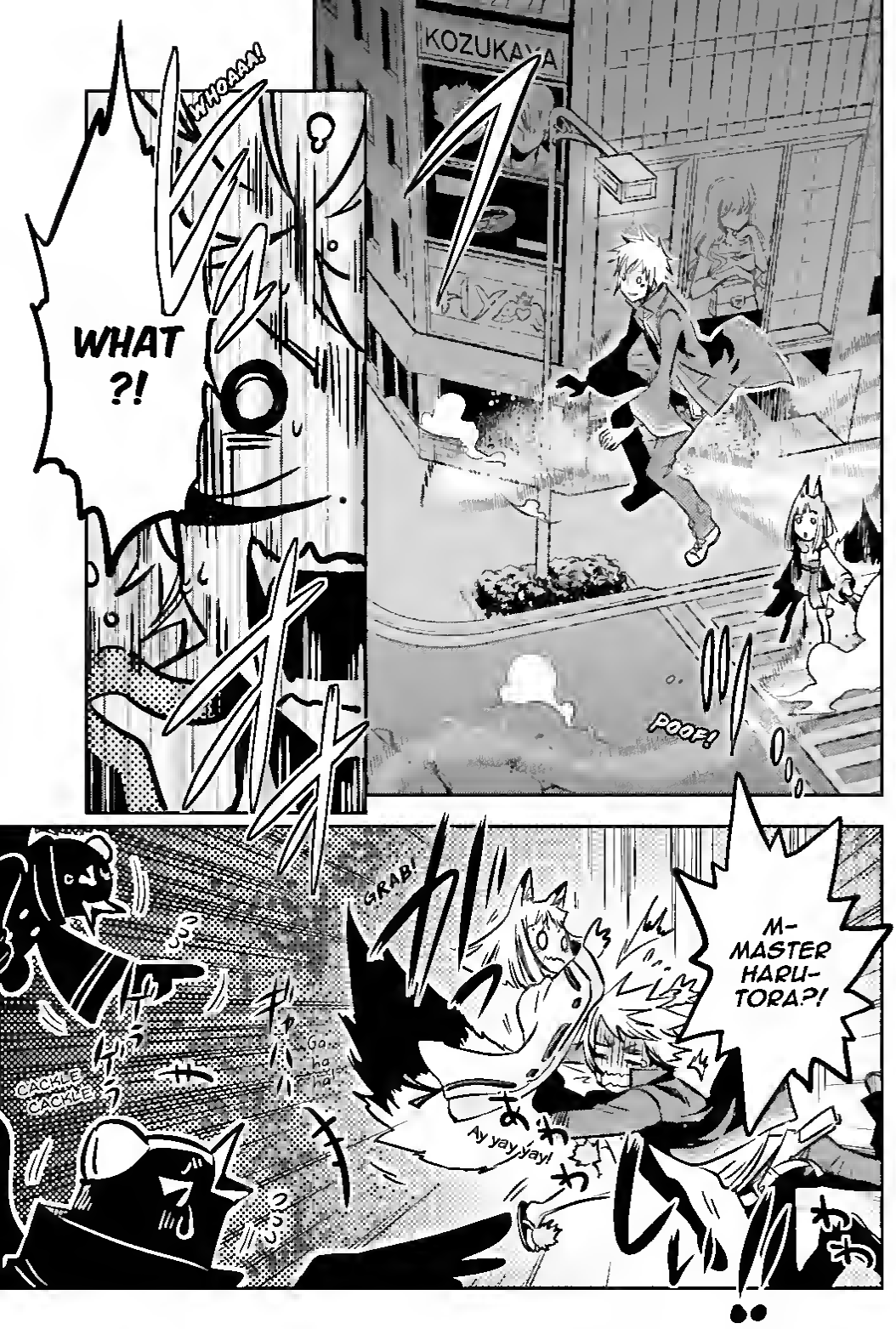
FLASH!

FLASH!


FSSSSH...
!
SILENCE
SHFF
FLOAT...

CLANG!
...
DID WE...
...PURIFY IT?

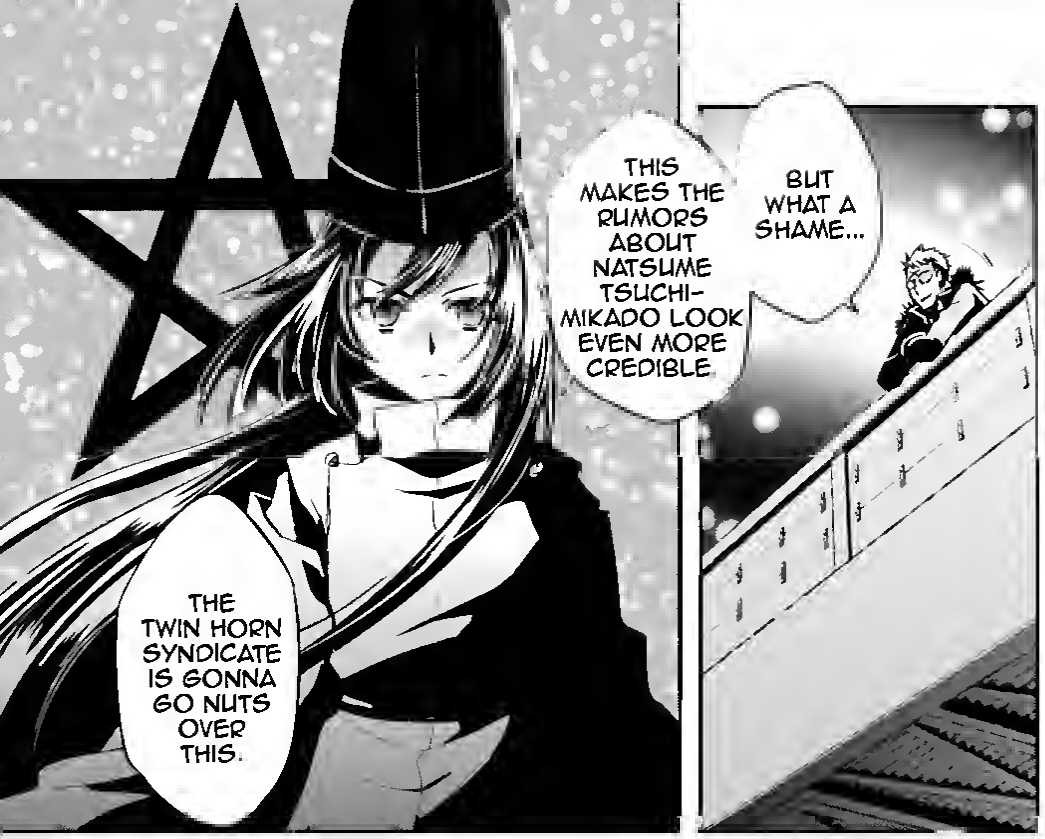
CAAW!
THE NUE IS DEFEATED!
CAWW!
CAAW!
WELL DONE!
Ha ha!
Yay!
BWUHH...
WE DID IT...?
SLUMP...
K-KON!
H-HELP HARU-TORA...
I'M OUT OF POWER..

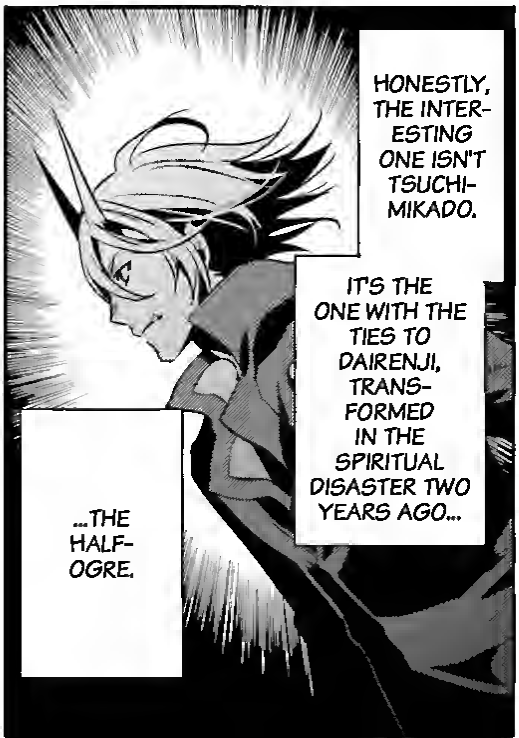

KOZUKAYA
WHOAAA!
WHAT ?!
POOF!
M-MASTER HARU-TORA?!
GRAB!
Ay yay yay!
CACKLE CACKLE
Go ha ha ha

WE DID IT...
LOOKS LIKE I MADE IT AT JUST THE RIGHT TIME.
SWOOSH...
Ah!
TOJI?! AND... YUKIKAZE!
FLOAT...
WHY ARE YOU HERE?
SHOULDN'T YUKIKAZE BE OUT IN THE--
WHOA! TOJI, YOU'VE GOT HORNS!
Fangs, too?!

GRIN
HOW DO I LOOK?
HEH...
NOT BAD.
HONESTLY, KINDA LIKE YOU JUST ATE SOMEONE.
HA...
SUITS YOU PERFECTLY, HUH, TOJI?

HMPH...
THEY BROUGHT IT DOWN, HUH?
SMIRK
A PHASE 3, PURIFIED BY A BUNCH OF AMATEURS...
YOU DON'T SEE THAT EVERY DAY.
SMIRK
LOOKS LIKE I WAS RIGHT TO SLIP AWAY FROM THE PURSUIT OF "02"


THE TWIN HORN SYNDICATE IS GONNA GO NUTS OVER THIS.
THIS MAKES THE RUMORS ABOUT NATSUME TSUCHI-MIKADO LOOK EVEN MORE CREDIBLE.
BUT WHAT A SHAME...


HONESTLY, THE INTER-ESTING ONE ISN'T TSUCHI-MIKADO.
IT'S THE ONE WITH THE TIES TO DAIRENJI, TRANS-FORMED IN THE SPIRITUAL DISASTER TWO YEARS AGO...
...THE HALF-OGRE.

HEH
HEH
SO...
WHAT NOW...

THE "OGRE-TYPE" DISASTER THAT DAIRENJI CREATED BY USING HIMSELF AS THE CORE.
YEAH, THAT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN A SIMPLE SPIRITUAL DISASTER.
THE DATA SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN TOTALLY WIPED OUT, BUT...
BUT HE ACTUALLY USED HIMSELF, NOT HIS DAUGHTER ...
...AS THE CORE TO SET OFF A PHASE 3 DYNAMIC SPIRITUAL DISASTER.
...TAKE THE "PRODIGY," SUZUKA DAIRENJI, FOR EXAMPLE...
...THAT GIRL IS OBVIOUSLY A VESSEL.
RAISED AND TRAINED TO BE A "RECEPTACLE" FOR SOME-THING.
A DYNAMIC SPIRITUAL DISASTER, TO SPEAK PLAINLY, IS A "MATERI-ALIZED SPIRITUAL BEING."
IN SHORT ...

...SHIDO DAIRENJI WAS TRYING TO MANIFEST SOMETHING, USING HIMSELF AS A VESSEL.
THE RESULT WAS THAT DAIRENJI, CHANGED BY THE DISASTER, BECAME POSSESSED.
BUT WHAT EXACTLY WAS IT?

BY NOW, IT'S HARD TO KNOW FOR SURE IF DAIRENJI WAS PURIFIED.
BUT...
WHAT IF SOMEONE BECAME A HALF-OGRE BECAUSE OF DAIRENJI AND THAT "SOMETHING" POSSESSED HIM?

WOULD THE OGRE INSIDE...
...REALLY BE JUST AN ORDINARY OGRE?
Heh.
GREAT...
Heh.
THIS IS REALLY GREAT...

THIS BOX OF RIDDLES HAS TUMBLED RIGHT UNDER MY NOSE.
THERE'S AN EASY WAY TO FIND OUT THE TRUTH.
YEAH...
SMIRK
...IT'D BE FASTER TO JUST LET IT TAKE OVER...
...IN THE END.

End of Chapter 26

TOKYO RAVENS

CHAPTER 27
SECRECY
YEAH...
...IT'D BE FASTER TO JUST LET IT TAKE OVER...
...IN THE END.

FLUTTER...
CLACK
CLACK
ALWAYS REMAIN AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS, NO MATTER WHAT.
DIDN'T THEY TEACH YOU THAT ON YOUR FIRST DAY OF TRAINING?
BUMP
YOU REALLY AREN'T CUT OUT FOR THE MAGICAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION.
SWITCHING TO THE EXORCISM BUREAU WAS THE RIGHT CALL.
WELL, WELL...

...IF IT ISN'T OLD MR. OTOMO.
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME, KAGAMI.
WHAT'S A RETIREE DOING HERE?
JUST TAKING AN EVENING STROLL.
A RECENT HOBBY OF MINE.
I'M WORKING ...
...AS A TEACHER NOW.
A TEACH-ER?
青山3丁目
Aoyama 3-chome
YOU ALWAYS DID HAVE A GEEZER'S TASTE IN HOBBIES.
AND YOU ALWAYS DID HAVE A RIDICULOUS SENSE OF FASHION FOR A CIVIL SERVANT.
BY THE WAY, KAGAMI ...

TWITCH!
YES.
AT ONMYO PREP.
AH...
I SEE...
WHAT A SHAME. WE USED TO GET ALONG, DIDN'T WE?
I'M USED TO DEALING WITH PROBLEM CHILDREN, THANKS TO YOU.
FUNNY, ISN'T IT?
Hmph.
YEAH, WE DID.
SO MANY FOND MEMORIES...
THAT REMINDS ME.

I'D LIKE TO DROP BY ONMYO PREP SOME-TIME.
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU HAVE SOME INTER-ESTING STUDENTS THERE.
THAT'S PROB-ABLY IMPOS-SIBLE.
AFTER ALL, I THINK YOU'LL...
...HAVE YOUR HANDS FULL BREAKING ALL THESE SPELLS.
GASP!
WHAT DID YOU SAY?!
YOU REALLY ARE CARELESS.
DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY SPELLS I'VE BEEN CASTING...
...WHILE YOU'VE BEEN RUNNING OFF AT THE MOUTH?

GETTING CUTE WITH ME WON'T HELP YOU.
Ha ha ha
SMOOTH TALK ALWAYS WAS YOUR FORTE.
YOU REALLY THINK I'D FALL FOR IT NOW?
YOU'RE BLUFFING.
WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE THERE'S A DEADLINE... YOU CAN STUDY THEM AT YOUR LEISURE.
AND ALL PULLED FROM ANCIENT DOCUMENTS SO OLD, EVEN THE NAMES ARE UNKNOWN.

...OF THE KIND OF PERSON I AM.
I KNOW YOU'RE WELL AWARE...
...TO THE ROUGHEST BATTLES EVERY CHANCE I GOT?
DURING YOUR TRAINING, WHY DO YOU THINK I TOOK A NEW RECRUIT LIKE YOU...

...
I WANTED TO SHOW YOU JUST WHAT I WAS CAPABLE OF DOING...
...IF AND WHEN IT WAS NECESSARY.
YOU'RE A CLEVER ENOUGH KID YOU MAY KNOW THAT 90 PERCENT OF WHAT I SAY IS A BLUFF...
...BUT YOU WON'T IGNORE THAT LAST 10 PERCENT.
YOU KNOW YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO.
TWIST...
RE-MEMBER THIS.
YOU'LL WANT TO CAREFULLY CONSIDER ...
...AND TAKE YOUR TIME TO BE SURE I'M TALKING 100 PERCENT NONSENSE.

ONLY OVER MY COLD, DEAD BODY...
...WILL YOU EVER LAY A HAND ON MY STUDENTS.
SOME-DAY...
FSSH...

SOME-DAY, I'M GOING TO KICK YOUR ASS...
...AND YOU BETTER BELIEVE I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO IT NOW.
WOW, SO SCARY.
IN THAT CASE, MAYBE I'D SLEEP EASIER KNOWING YOU HAD A FATAL "ACCIDENT" RIGHT HERE AND NOW.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, HUH?
I'M GONNA KILL YOU FOR SURE...
WELL, WELL...
AREN'T WE BOTH JUST GREAT...
...AT "SMOOTH TALK"?
I WAS WRONG AFTER ALL.
HE'S IN A DIFFERENT CLASS FROM SOME HALF-OGRE BRAT OR REINCARNATED TWERP.

THIS FEELING OF LAUGHING WHILE TOYING WITH DEATH...
IT'S THRILLING.
THAT'S ENOUGH...
...JIN.
THE RIGHT-HAND MAN AND "SHADOW" OF THE DIVINE FAN, DAIZEN AMAMI.
THE MAN WHO SINGLE-HANDEDLY TOOK ON THE DARK OCCULT JOBS THAT COULDN'T BE MADE PUBLIC...
HEY!
?!
ALWAYS REMAIN AWARE OF YOUR SURROUND-INGS...
...!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, ANYWAY, ZENJIRO?

I WAS TIED UP WITH MUTOBE FROM THE TWIN HORN SYNDICATE UNTIL JUST A SECOND AGO!
THAT'S NO EXCUSE, YOU MORON!
IT'S A LIABILITY ISSUE FOR THE EXORCISM BUREAU!
WHAT DOES THE EXORCISM BUREAU WANT WITH A BUNCH OF AMATEUR MINORS?
I-IT COULDN'T BE HELPED!
AND WHY WERE MY STUDENTS TAKING ON A NUE ALONE?
I could hardly believe my eyes.
...DID YOU TAKE MUTOBE INTO CUSTODY, THEN?
OF COURSE!
. OR AT LEAST, I WISH THAT WERE TRUE
SO, KOGURE...
WHAT?! DON'T KID AROUND! THIS IS NO TIME FOR BAD JOKES!
IF IT LEAKS TO THE MEDIA, THAT'LL BE IT FOR THE BUREAU CHIEF!
Tch, what a force
OH, WHAT THE--
YOU CAN'T JUST GO AND LET PEOPLE DIE, ZENJIRO.
HUH?!
HE'S... DEAD.

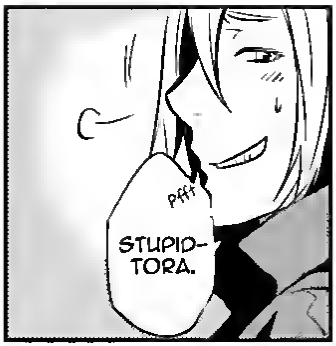
SH-SHUT UP!
Hmph..
YUP, ALWAYS HAS BEEN.
Sigh...
HAS HE ALWAYS BEEN LIKE THIS?
Hmph
YOU ALWAYS DID DROP THE BALL RIGHT WHEN IT MATTERS...
Sigh
GEEZ, OUR MAIN PERP GOT KILLED OFF AGAIN.
CAAW
Ah!
ZEN-JIRO, WE FOUND YOU!
SO THIS IS WHERE YOU WERE!
CAAW
AND WHY IS IT YOU TWO GET ALONG ONLY WHILE YOU'RE BADMOUTHING ME?!
Isn't that weird?!
THAT GUY HAD A SUICIDE CURSE ON HIM FROM THE BEGINNING!
What was I supposed to do?!
CAAW
LISTEN, LISTEN!
THEY PURIFIED THE NUE!
CAAW
ISN'T IT AMAZING? ISN'T IT?!
MY FUN WILL JUST HAVE TO WAIT.
ALL THAT'S LEFT IS THE ANNOYING CLEANUP AND ROUTINE WORK...
BUT...
GUESS THERE'S NO HELPING IT.
SLIP

...WAITING FOR ME AT ONMYO PREP.
IF I BIDE MY TIME, THEN SURELY--
A HALF-OGRE WITH TIES TO DAIRENJI AND THE REINCARNATION OF YAKO...
...AND OTOMO. THEY'RE ALL...
...I DON'T INTEND TO GIVE UP ON MY PREY.
!
GASP!
WHA--?!
FLINCH
?
?
THAT PRESENCE... IT CAN'T BE--!
A FEW MINUTES EARLIER...
GEEZ, THOUGH...

SLUMP
ぐったり…
WHAT A DAY IT'S BEEN.
REALLY.
UP 'TIL THIS MORNING, I WASN'T THINKING ABOUT ANYTHING BUT THE EXAMS...
SNIFF
INSPECTING THE SITE
SNIFF
UNTIL EVERY-THING THAT HAPPENED TODAY, I BELIEVED ...
...ADULTS WOULD ALWAYS PROTECT US.
BUT I WAS WRONG.
EVEN ADULTS HAVE THINGS THEY CAN AND CAN'T DO.
BLINDLY TRUSTING THEM TO TAKE CARE OF EVERY-THING ISN'T FAITH, IT'S NAIVETY.
I HAVE TO RELY ON MYSELF, FIRST AND FOREMOST.
WE REALLY HAVE TO WORK HARD...
BUT STILL...

THAT WAS MY FIRST "TEST DRIVE," SO...
...I CAN'T REALLY SAY, YET.
...I NEVER IMAGINED YOU COULD CONTROL THE OGRE.
Your horns and fangs are gone now, too.
WELL, TOJI? ARE YOU GONNA BE OKAY?
WHO KNOWS?
THIS SEEMS KINDA RISKY, SOME-HOW.
AN EX-THUG TURNED OGRE.
KINDA LIKE STRAPPING A MACHINE GUN ON A CANNON. A LOOSE ONE.
SHOULDN'T YOU WATCH WHAT YOU SAY, HARU-TORA?
IF I DID TURN FULL-OGRE, YOU'D PROBABLY BE THE FIRST TO GET EATEN.
DOWN THE HATCH, HEAD FIRST.
RIGHT?

YEAH, RIGHT. NEXT TIME DON'T SHOW UP AT THE LAST MINUTE JUST TO MAKE YOURSELF LOOK COOL.
MAYBE SOMEBODY SHOULDN'T HAVE PUNCHED POOR OLD ME UNCON-SCIOUS.
AND EVER AFTER ALL THAT, I STILL RAN RIGHT OVER HERE OUT OF WORRY FOR YOU! PRETTY HEROIC, IF YOU ASK ME.
HEH HEH
YOU KNOW ...
...YOU'VE ACTUALLY GOT IT PRETTY ROUGH.
YEAH... HONESTLY, I THINK MY LUCK IS WORSE THAN YOURS.
BUT...
...IF WE'RE TOGETH-ER...
...WE ALWAYS SEEM TO TURN THINGS AROUND JUST IN TIME.
EVEN AFTER I RAN INTO AN OGRE AND GOT TURNED INTO A HALF-OGRE...
... YOUR OLD MAN SAVED ME, AND I ENDED UP HERE.

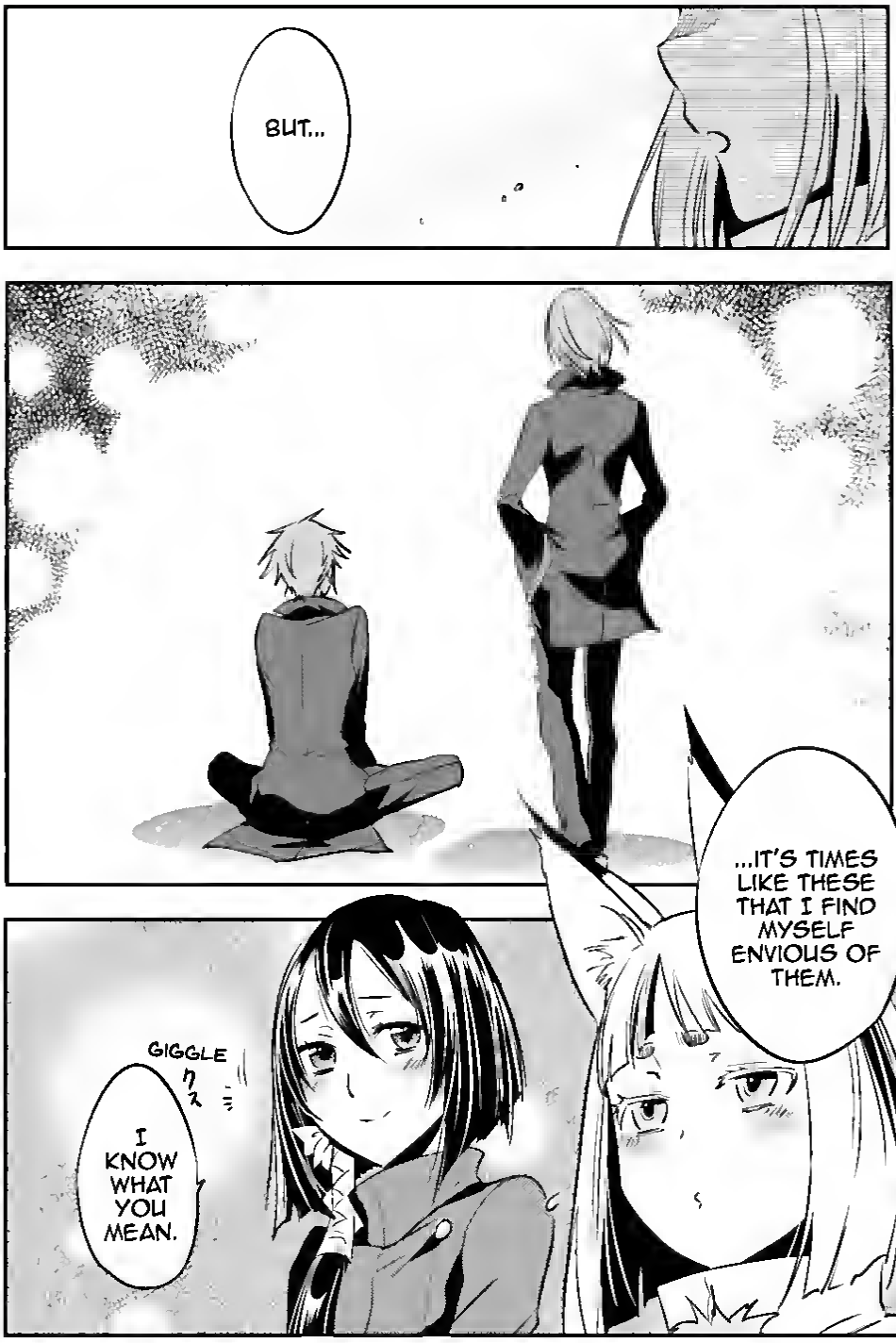

PFFT
STUPID-TORA.

IN... SCROO-TABLE? WHAT'S THAT MEAN?
I GUESS THE WAYS OF HEAV-EN ARE INSCRU-TABLE, EH?
GAPE...

I RAN INTO AN OGRE, BUT I MET YOU GUYS, TOO.
AND I'M SATISFIED WITH THAT.
OHH?
SMIRK

WHAT GIVES, TOJI?
ARE YOU JUST GETTING ALL THE SENTI-MENTAL ...
... TEEN-AGE STUFF OVER WITH IN ONE NIGHT ?
I GUESS? JUST FORGET IT, OKAY?
SMILE
NO WAY.
I'M NEVER GONNA FORGET IT.
ow!
ㅋㅋㅋ
ㅋㅋㅋ

FIDGET
そわ
KON...
そわ
FIDGET
そわ
FIDGET
そわ
FIDGET
JUST... LEAVE THEM BE. WE SHOULDN'T INTERRUPT NOW.
I'm holding back, too, so...
そわ
FIDGET
?
Phoo...
I KNOW THAT.


BUT...
...IT'S TIMES LIKE THESE THAT I FIND MYSELF ENVIOUS OF THEM.
GIGGLE
I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN.

THAT BOND THAT GUYS HAVE...
IT'S A LITTLE...
...UNFAIR, ISN'T IT?
WHOOSH

HUH?
ARE THE ROADS OPEN TO TRAFFIC AGAIN?
WHOOOSH
!
?!
WHOOSH

WHOOOSH
!
?!

HUH?
ARE THE ROADS OPEN TO TRAFFIC AGAIN?
WHOOSH

THE TIRES... AREN'T TURNING!
NO... IT'S FLOATING...?!
HUH ?!
SHE...
SHUDDER
MASTER HARU-TORA!!
SHUDDER
GOOD EVENING.

WHOOM...
I WAS HERE TO PICK UP A LITTLE SOMETHING OF MINE, BUT...
...IT SEEMS YOU'VE EXORCISED IT WITHOUT A TRACE.
AH WELL, NEVER YOU MIND.
YOU'VE GIVEN ME QUITE THE DELIGHTFUL EVENING.

WHAT FUN WE'LL HAVE.
AH, YES, WHAT FUN.
NOW THEN, ARE YOU ALL QUITE SATISFIED WITH YOUR-SELVES?
YOU CHILDREN ARE NO MORE THAN BLIND CHICKS...
...ONLY JUST HATCHING FROM YOUR SHELLS TO SEE THE WORLD AREN'T YOU?
HEH HEH...
YOU OUGHT TO APPLY YOUR-SELVES.

AND HURRY...
...OVER TO "MY SIDE."
I'LL BE WAITING...
SHFF...
...AND KEEPING AN EYE ON YOU ALL.
WH...
WHO...ARE YOU?!
PAUSE...
HEH
HEH...

MY NAME IS...

...DOMAN ASHIYA.

MY NAME IS...
...DOMAN ASHIYA.

SHMP!

WOBBLE
?!
GASP!
SHOOM...
HEY, HARU-TORA...
DAMMIT! WHAT WAS THAT?!
I FAILED TO SENSE HIM, TOO ...!
M-M-MANY APOL-OGIES, MAS-TER!
IT'S NO USE! MY SENSES JUST...!!
N-NATSU-ME?!

ASHIYA...
DID HE SAY "DOMAN ASHIYA"?!
...MAYBE WE WERE JUST DREAMING?
I FEEL LIKE I JUST HEARD A VERY UNLIKELY NAME...
FUNNY YOU SHOULD SAY THAT.
I FEEL THE SAME WAY, TOJI.
SHIVER
SHIVER
HE WAS LYING, WASN'T HE? THAT'S... THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE!
WHO...
WHO ON EARTH IS HE?!

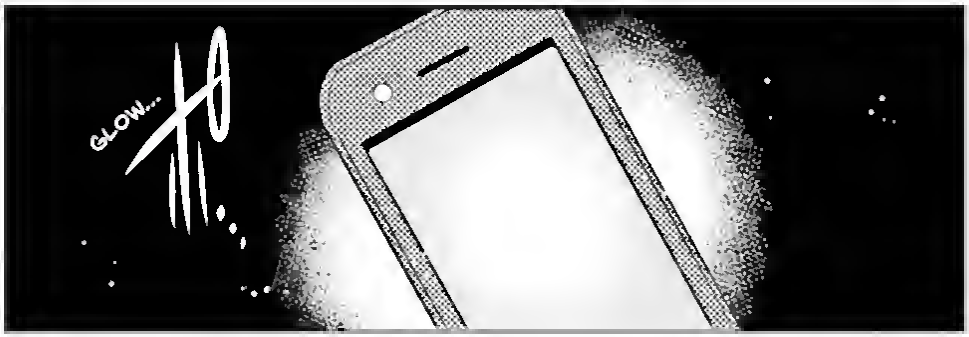
I HUMBLY PRESENT MYSELF...
...TO THE TAIZAN FUKUN...
...GOD OF THE AFTERLIFE.
Gah...

Gah...

I HUMBLY PRESENT MYSELF...
...TO THE TAIZAN FUKUN...
...GOD OF THE AFTERLIFE.

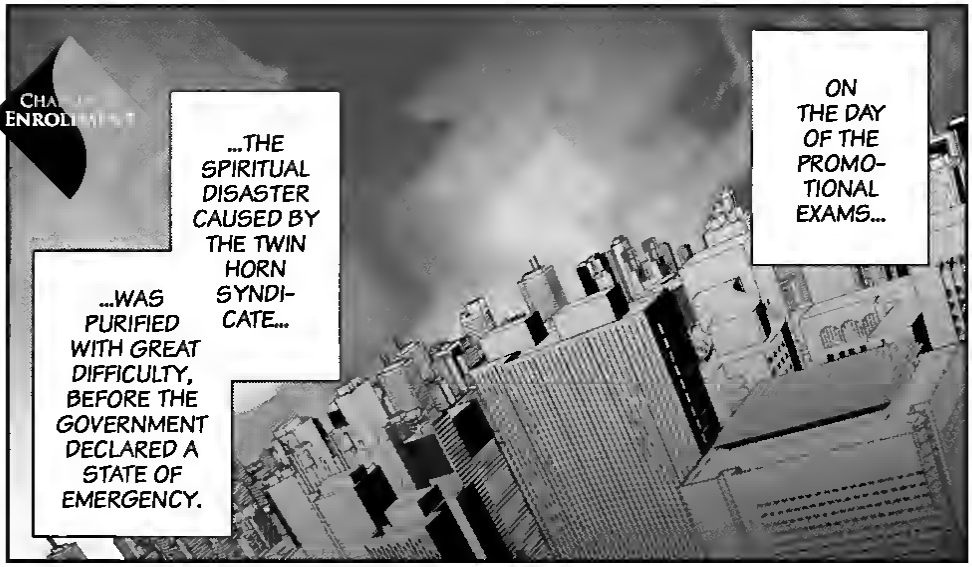
FLIP FLIP FLIP...
FWOOM!
POOF
MUTOBE
...?

FLOAT...
PLEASE... LEAVE THE REST TO ME.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR HARD WORK...
BEEP
FLIP!

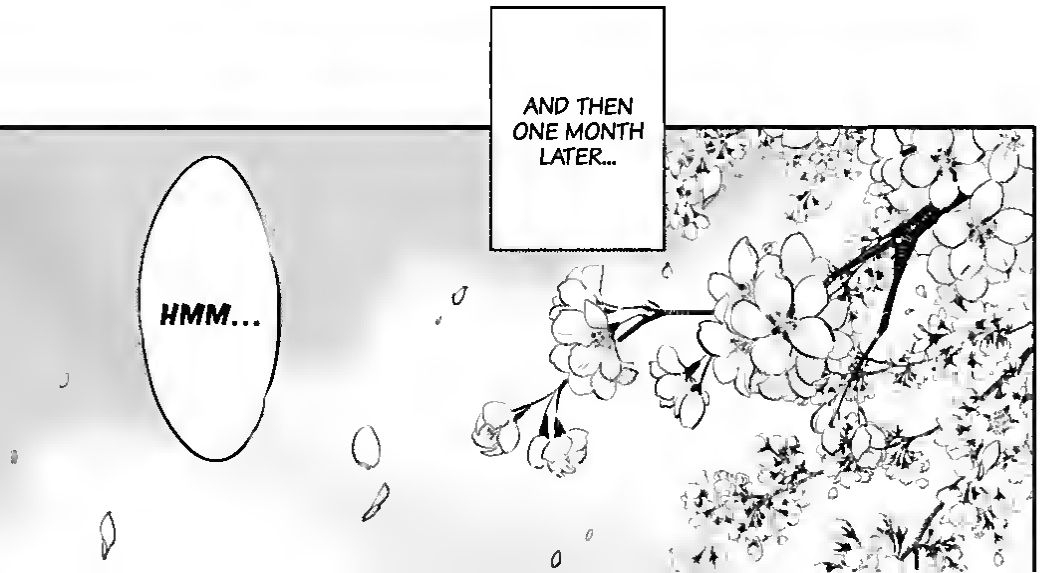

GLOW...

End of Chapter 27

TOKYO RAVENS


ON THE DAY OF THE PROMOTIONAL EXAMS...
...THE SPIRITUAL DISASTER CAUSED BY THE TWIN HORN SYNDICATE...
...WAS PURIFIED WITH GREAT DIFFICULTY, BEFORE THE GOVERNMENT DECLARED A STATE OF EMERGENCY.

THE INCIDENT WAS LATER CALLED THE SECOND "MOMO-NO-SEKKU PURIFICATION."
IT WAS PICKED UP BY THE DAILY NEWS...
...AND THE SCOPE OF THE DAMAGE WAS WIDELY TALKED ABOUT.

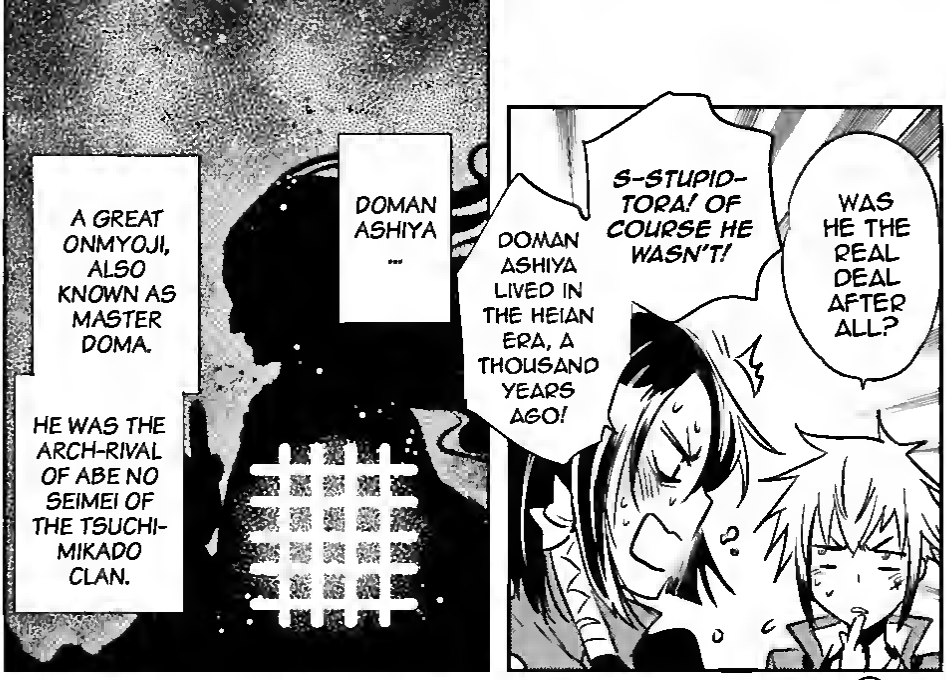

AND THEN ONE MONTH LATER...
HMM...

SO THIS IS WHAT THEY MEAN...
...WHEN THEY TALK ABOUT PERFECT WEATHER, HUH?
I NEVER KNEW UNTIL I CAME TO SEE IT MYSELF, BUT...
... THERE'S A SURPRISING AMOUNT OF GREENERY IN TOKYO, ISN'T THERE?
WELL ...
...IT'S ALL CULTIVATED GREENERY.
NO PROBLEM WITH THAT.
SOME CHERRY TREES LIVE IN THE MOUNTAINS...
...AND SOME LIVE IN THE CITY, RIGHT?
HARUTORA! TOJI!

CHAPTER 28
ENROLLMENT
IF WE DON'T HURRY, WE'LL BE LATE!

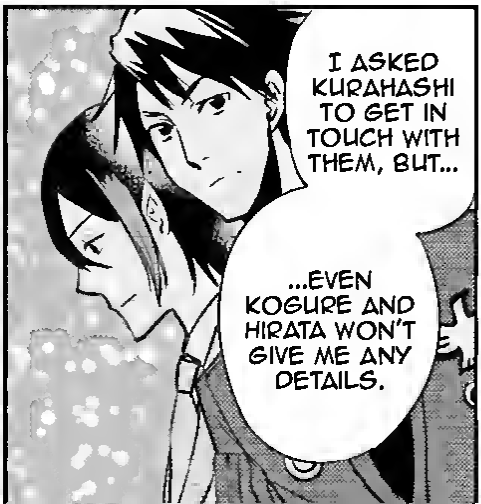
Geez!
HOW LONG DO YOU PLAN TO BE IN HIGH SPIRITS OVER MOVING UP A YEAR?
TODAY'S THE ENTRANCE CEREMONY FOR NEW STUDENTS!
IT'LL LOOK TERRIBLE IF YOU SHOW UP LATE!
You're upperclass-men now
YEAH, SO YOU PASSED THE FINAL EXAMS...
...BUT HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN HOW FAR BEHIND YOU ARE IN THE LECTURES?
GRUMBLE
Guh...
GRUMBLE
I SUGGEST YOU STOP ACTING SO LACKA-DAISICAL ABOUT THINGS.
ALSO, LET ME JUST POINT OUT THAT...

HUH? REALLY?
LAST YEAR WAS NOTHING COMPARED TO HOW TOUGH THIS YEAR WILL BE!
WE'LL BE LEARNING MORE SPECIALIZED KNOWLEDGE IN AN EVEN SHORTER SPAN.
...WHILE WE'LL HAVE MORE PRACTICAL TRAINING AS SECOND YEARS, THE LECTURES WON'T END!
YOU WERE THINKING THAT, HARU-TORA.
I-I WASN'T THINKING THAT...
HURK!
THINKING YOU CAN GET THROUGH SECOND YEAR ON YOUR PRACTICAL SKILLS WON'T CUT IT!
YES!
ESPECIALLY IF THERE ARE LEGENDARY ONMYOJI SHOWING UP.
BUT... HONESTLY, I FEEL LIKE WHATEVER WE LEARN AT SCHOOL, IT DOESN'T MEAN MUCH.
...DOMAN ASHIYA.
MY NAME IS...
THAT OLD MAN...
YOU MEAN ...


DOMAN ASHIYA ...
A GREAT ONMYOJI, ALSO KNOWN AS MASTER DOMA.
HE WAS THE ARCH-RIVAL OF ABE NO SEIMEI OF THE TSUCHI-MIKADO CLAN.
S-STUPID-TORA! OF COURSE HE WASN'T!
DOMAN ASHIYA LIVED IN THE HEIAN ERA, A THOUSAND YEARS AGO!
WAS HE THE REAL DEAL AFTER ALL?

...THE ONMYO AGENCY STILL HASN'T EXPLAINED ABOUT THAT OLD MAN, HAS IT?
NO...
The Twelve Divine Generals are usually on an insane level, too...
W-WELL, IT SEEMS RIDICULOUS AT FIRST, BUT...

I THINK THAT'S POSSI-BLE.
MAYBE THE ONMYO AGENCY DOESN'T EVEN KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON.


I ASKED KURAHASHI TO GET IN TOUCH WITH THEM, BUT...
...EVEN KOGURE AND HIRATA WON'T GIVE ME ANY DETAILS.

WE CAN BE SURE HE'S AN ONMYOJI WITH TIES TO THE UNDER-WORLD.
AND... THAT HIS POWER IS PROPOR-TIONATE TO HIS POSITION.
...
YEAH... WELL, WHATEVER!
FLUTTER
FOR NOW, LET'S JUST FOCUS ON WHAT WE CAN DO.
THINKING TOO MUCH ABOUT IT WON'T HELP.
GRIN!

Ah...
HUH?
CHERRY BLOSSOMS SUIT YOU, HARUTORA.
Bwuhh?
GIGGLE
YOU'RE RIGHT. AH WELL...
LIKE A FIELD OF FLOWERS... OR A SPRING PICNIC UNDER THE TREES.
STUPID-TORA! YOU SHOULD BE NERVOUS! HURRY IT UP! WE'RE GOING TO BE LATE!
IT'S NOT WORTH GETTING ALL NERVOUS, RIGHT?
C'MON, NATSUME!
WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO WASTE LAUGHING AT HARUTORA!
...AHHH! NO, WAIT!

SHOULDN'T WE JUST SKIP THE ENTRANCE CEREMONY AT THIS POINT?
THIS IS AWFUL! THE SCHOOL YEAR JUST START-ED...!
TMP
W-WAIT! NATSUME! TOJI!
TMP
HUH?
DASH!
ACK ?!
TMP
WE CAN'T DO THAT!
AS A MEMBER OF THE TSUCHI-MIKADO, I CAN'T BE LATE...
...OR SKIP OUT ON A SOLEMN CEREMONY ...!
TMP
THOUGH HARUTORA DOES FINE WITH BAD GRADES AND MAKEUP CLASSES ...
DING DONG...

TODAY, ALL OF YOU NEW STUDENTS...
...WILL ENROLL IN THE 48TH CLASS AT OUR ACADEMY, THE LEADING EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION IN THE COUNTRY FOR ONMYOJI.
きょう
STARE
きょう
STARE

Whisper
HARUTORA, STOP LOOKING AROUND!
YEAH, BUT...
...DOESN'T IT BUG YOU? AFTER ALL...
I'D DEFINITELY LOSE TO THEM ON THE KNOWLEDGE FRONT...
BUT...
SLUMP...
...HOW AMAZING MUST THESE GUYS BE...
...TO MAKE IT PAST THE HURDLES TO GET INTO THIS ACADEMY?
HMM?
THIS YEAR'S NEW STUDENTS SEEM REALLY RESTLESS.
I WONDER IF I WAS LIKE THEM WHEN I STARTED MY FIRST YEAR?
Did I just not realize it?
REST-LESS?

...HEY, NATSUME ...?
FIDGET
FIDGET
...THE ONES TOWARD THE FRONT SEEM ESPECIALLY FIDGETY, DON'T THEY?
What is it?
NOW THAT I LOOK AT IT THOUGH...
FIDGET
WON'T WE HAVE OUR PRACTICAL SKILL CLASSES WITH THEM FROM OUR SECOND YEAR ON?
THE FIRST YEARS ARE ONE THING, BUT WHAT ABOUT THE THIRD YEARS?
THEY MUST KNOW ALL KINDS OF AMAZING SPELLS, RIGHT?
...I SUP-POSE.
WE DON'T HAVE CLUBS AT ONMYO PREP, SO WE HAVEN'T HAD A CHANCE TO TALK WITH ANY OF THEM.
I WONDER WHAT THEY'RE LIKE?

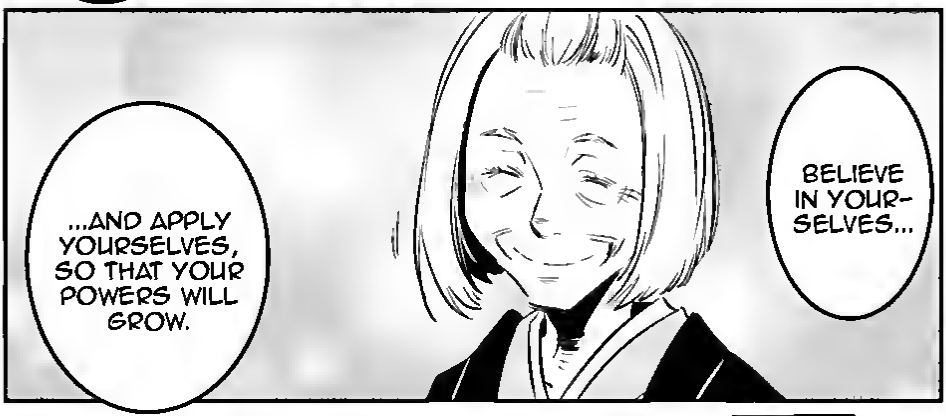
Huh?!
YOU'RE KIDDING?!
REALLY?
Whisper
ACK! HEY!
Whisper
YOU'RE BEING LOUD!
TO TELL THE TRUTH, DURING THE SECOND YEAR...
...THERE'S ALWAYS A SHARP RISE IN THE NUMBER OF DROP-OUTS.
Whisper
M-MY BAD...
BUT WHY?
IT'S BECAUSE PRACTICAL TRAINING INCREASES.

TO BE FRANK, BEING AN ONMYOJI IS A PROFESSION ...
...LARGELY INFLUENCED BY THE GIFTS YOU'RE BORN WITH.
EVEN IF YOUR BOOK KNOWLEDGE IS STRONG, THE GAP IN YOUR PRACTICAL SKILLS WILL BE OBVIOUS.
チョー余裕っしょ!!
It'll be a piece of cake!
IT'S NOT EASY TO KEEP STRUGGLING ALONG...
...AFTER THAT "TALENT GAP" HAS BEEN SHOVED IN YOUR FACE.
I-It's no use. I've had it...
THE ONES WHO TOOK THE ADVANCED LEVEL CLASSES WITHOUT DROPPING OUT, ARE OUR THIRD YEARS.
A BUNCH OF FRESHLY-PROMOTED SECOND YEARS LIKE US CAN'T EVEN COMPARE.

GULP
S-SEMI-PROS, HUH...?
...WELL, THEY'RE BASICALLY LIKE SEMI-PROS.
THEY HAVEN'T OFFICIALLY QUALIFIED YET, BUT...
GUESS I BETTER START FEELING NERVOUS.
IT REALLY IS LIKE NATSUME SAID...
WELL, I DUNNO HOW GOOD THESE GUYS ARE, BUT...

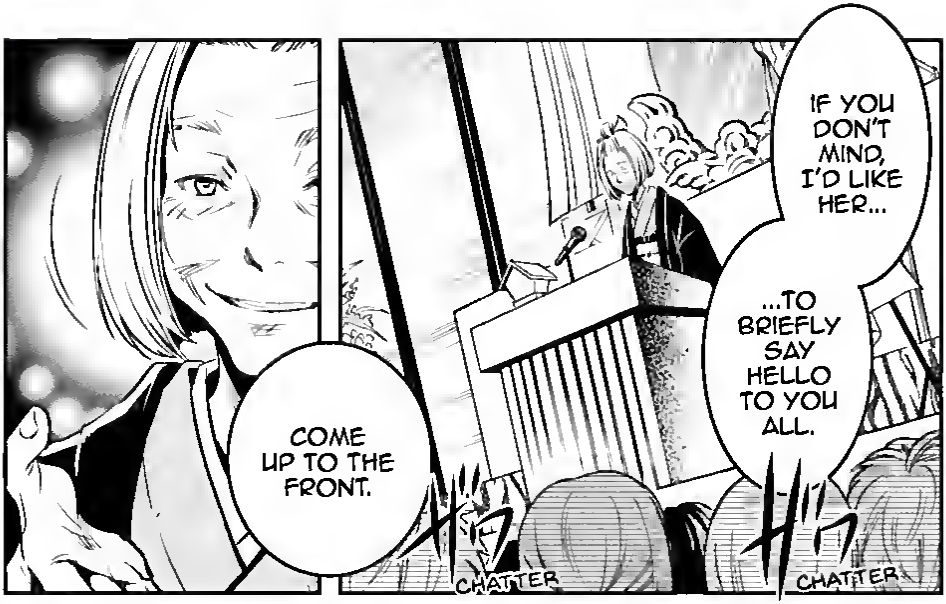
NOT THE THIRD YEARS...
...AND DEFINITELY NOT THE NEW STUDENTS.
...I'LL BETCHA NONE OF THEM HAVE EVER TAKEN DOWN A NUE, RIGHT?
GRIN
CHUCKLE
THERE'S NOTHING TO FREAK OUT ABOUT.
YEAH... YOU'RE RIGHT.

TO ALL OF YOU NEW STUDENTS...
...AND TO THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE BEEN PROMOTED TO A NEW STAGE.
WE'LL DO WHATEVER WE CAN DO. AND WITH NO REGRETS.
LASTLY ...

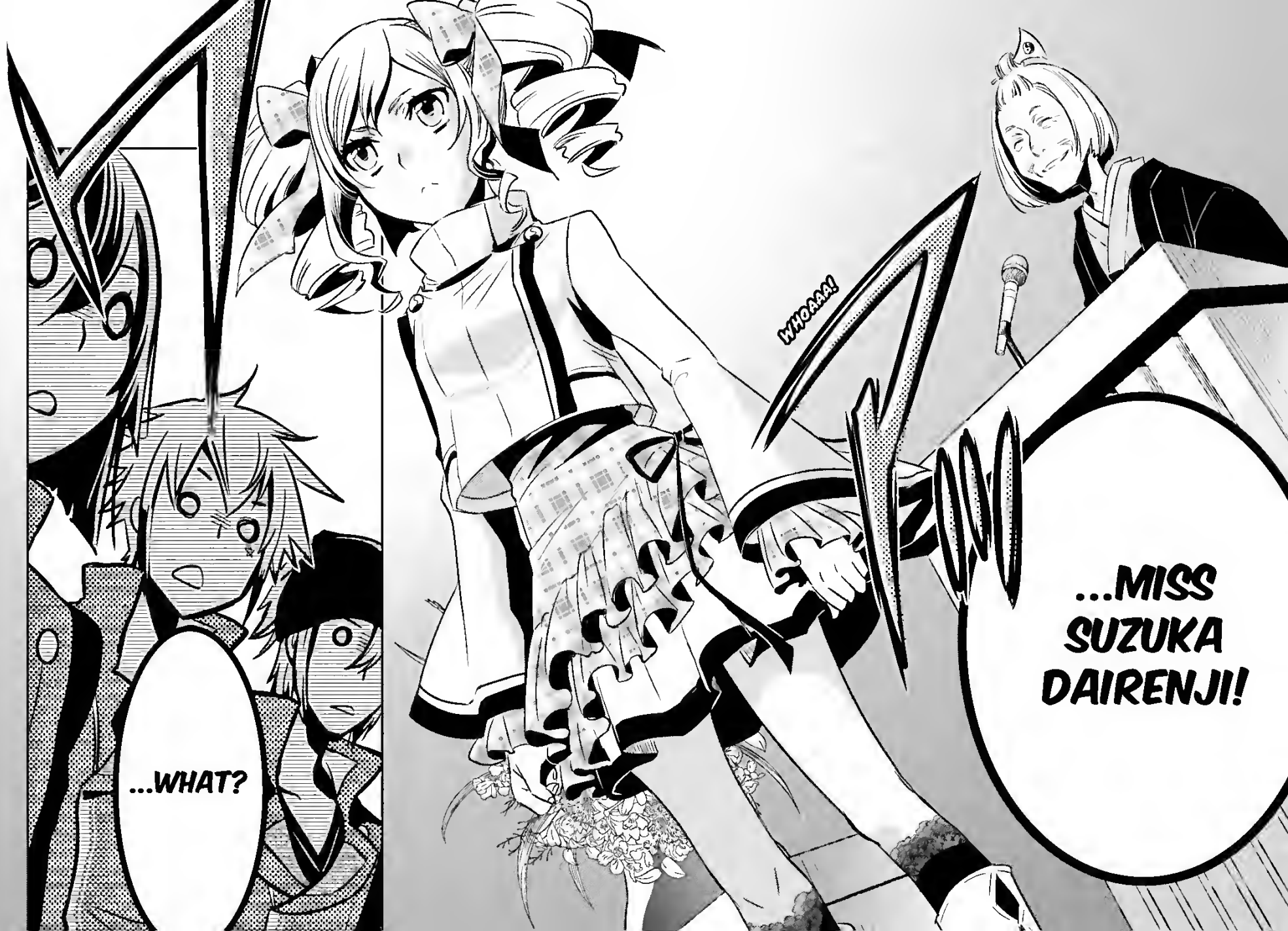

...AND APPLY YOURSELVES, SO THAT YOUR POWERS WILL GROW.
BELIEVE IN YOURSELVES...

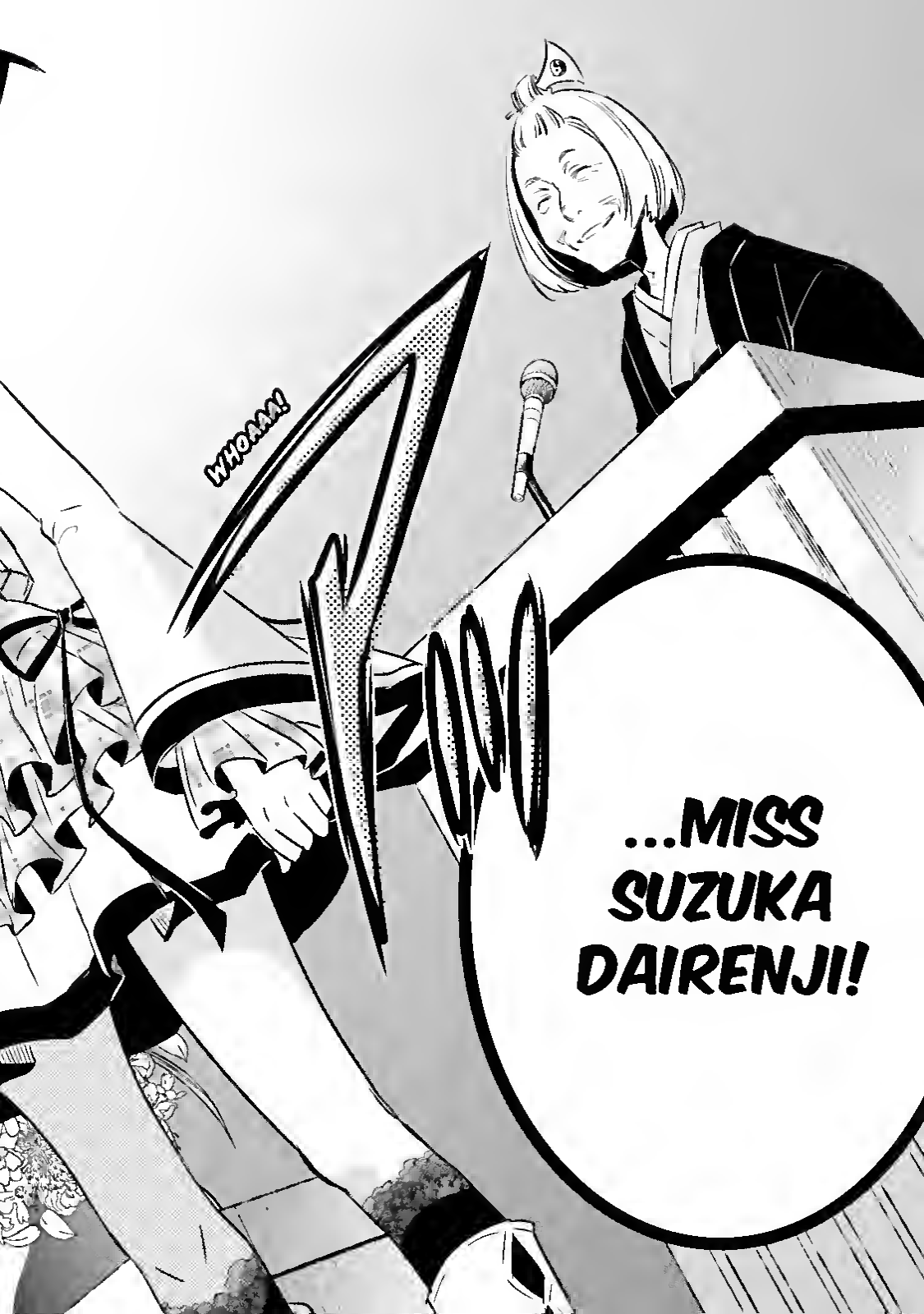
BUZZ
HMM?
I FORGOT THAT I HAVE ONE MORE ANNOUNCEMENT.
GASP!
OH, DEAR ME.
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP...
ALL RIGHT.
TIME FOR MY FIRST CLASS AS A SECOND-YEAR--
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP

SHE HAS ALREADY ACQUIRED HER QUALIFI-CATION AS AN ONMYOJI, BUT...
...AFTER SOME CIRCUM-STANCES ...
...AND EXPRESSING A STRONG DESIRE TO JOIN US...
CHATTER...
ACTUALLY, AMONG THIS YEAR'S NEW STUDENTS...
...WE'VE ACCEPTED A GIRL WITH A RATHER ODD RÉSUMÉ.
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...!
IS IT REALLY HER?!
...SHE HAS BEEN GIVEN PERMISSION TO ENROLL HERE AS A SCHOLARSHIP STUDENT.
NO WAY!
CHATTER...
CHATTER...
WH... WHAT'S GOING ON?
The first years are kicking up a real fuss...


COME UP TO THE FRONT.
IF YOU DON'T MIND, I'D LIKE HER...
...TO BRIEFLY SAY HELLO TO YOU ALL.
CHATTER
CHATTER

THOSE OF YOU HERE MAY ALREADY KNOW OF HER, BUT I'LL INTRODUCE HER ANYWAY.
CHIFF...
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
THE YOUNGEST FIRST CLASS STATE ONMYOJI...
...ALSO KNOWN AS "THE PRODIGY" ...
CHATTER


...WHAT?
WHOAAA!
...MISS SUZUKA DAIRENJI!


WHOAA!
...MISS SUZUKA DAIRENJI!

...WHAT?

...H-HEY...
...UHHH...
...
SHFF...
Woooow...
ARE YOU...
...THE INFAMOUS CHILD PRODIGY?

YOU'RE A NUISANCE!
WHAT I DO WITH MY OWN LIFE IS MY DECISION!
BROTHER!!
WHY?!
IT'S HER...!

キラ
SPARKLE
NICE TO MEET YOU, EVERYBODY!
LIKE PRINCIPAL KURAHASHI SAID IN THAT LOVELY INTRO-DUCTION...
キラッ☆
SPARKLE
...I'M SUZUKA DAIRENJI!

Hoaraaay!

....WHA?
Yaaaaay!
...

IT'S ALWAYS BEEN MY DREAM TO TACKLE THE STUDY OF ONMYO...
...WITH OTHER PEOPLE MY OWN AGE!
Hee hee!
I WAS SO NERVOUS ABOUT TODAY...
...BUT I'M SO HAPPY TO BE HERE!

AND TODAY, MY DREAM CAME TRUE!
Yaay!
Yaay!
OH, SO THAT'S IT.
THIS IS A DREAM, HUH?
NO WONDER I'VE GOT SUCH A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS.
MY FUTURE CLASSMATES AND UPPER-CLASSMEN!
THERE ARE PROBABLY SOME THINGS I CAN TEACH YOU ALL ABOUT ONMYO MAGIC.
SO, PLEASE ...
OF COURSE IT'S A DREAM...
BEAM!
ニコッ♡
...I'D LIKE YOU ALL...
...TO TEACH ME LOTS OF THINGS, TOO!

Hoppaaay!
Whoo-hoo!
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
Whoo-hoo!
DUMBFOUNDED
ぼーぜん
WHAT THE HELL...
...IS GOING ON...?!
Yaay! Yaay!
Gah!
Hee hee!
CLAP
CLAP
TIP!
CLAP
VERY CALCU-LATED ANGLE.
CLAP
CLAP
GASP!
GURK!
OH, CRAP--!

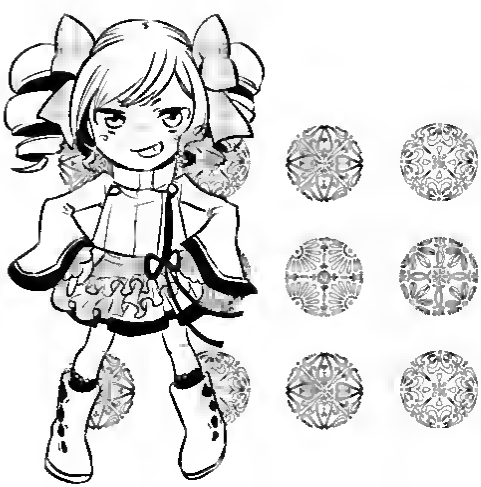
...HUH?
BLU-UU-USH!
SHFF...
SMIRK

DEEP BREATH...
GRIP!
...THAT SUZUKA.
SHE'S REALLY ...
OH GOOD, THERE'S NO MISTAKE.
SHUDDER
IT'S YOU!
IT'S REALLY YOU, ISN'T IT, HARUTORA!
BUZZ
UGH?!

I'M SO HAPPY!
I ALWAYS IMAGINED I'D SEE YOU AGAIN...
...IF I CAME TO ONMYO PREP!
SPARKLE
SPARKLE
SPARKLE
BUT I DIDN'T EXPECT TO FIND YOU SO QUICKLY!
HEY, QUIT IT.
CUT IT OUT!
HARU-TORA?
CHATTER
WHO'S THAT?
THE TSUCHI-MIKADO KID...
CHATTER
THE ONE FROM THAT FAMILY ...
CHATTER
WHAT? THOSE TWO?
CHATTER
HOW DO THEY--
CUT IT--
OH, SUZUKA.
DO YOU TWO KNOW EACH OTHER, THEN?
WHIRL
YES, MA'AM!!

HE WAS...
...MY FIRST KISS!

WHAAAT?!
Hee hee!
Omigod!
Woow!
Whoaaaaa
Woow!
AND WITH THAT...
...THE CURTAIN OPENED...
...ON THE TURMOIL OF A NEW SCHOOL YEAR.
END OF CHAPTER 28



TOKYO RAVENS

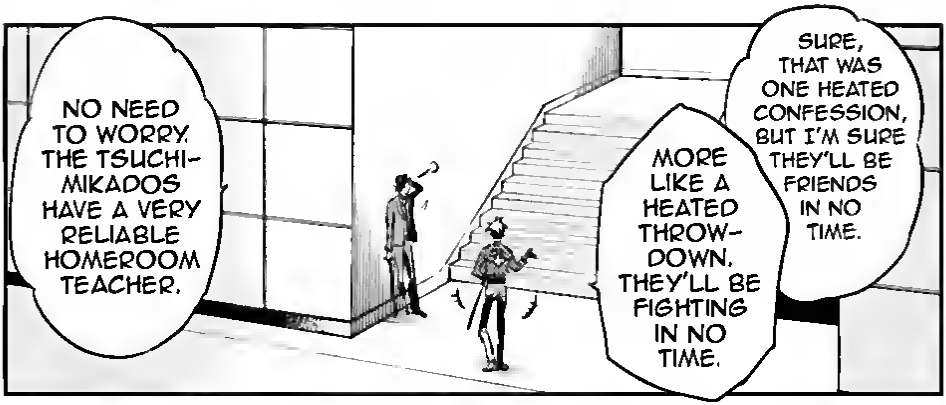
CHAPTER 29
TURMOIL

HEY, HEY! JIN!
I CAME ALL THIS WAY TO ENJOY A BREAK FROM WORK WITH YOU...
...SO WHAT'S WITH THE LONG FACE?!
GRUMBLE
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO COME MARCHING RIGHT INTO THE STAFF-ROOM, IDIOT.
GRUMBLE
IT'LL BE ONE HASSLE AFTER ANOTHER IF THEY FIND OUT I KNOW THE ACE OF THE EXORCISM BUREAU.
GRUMBLE
HEY, I'VE BEEN SERIOUSLY BUSY LATELY!
WE'VE HAD DISASTERS ALL OVER, THANKS TO THOSE TERRORISTS!
AND I STILL WENT OUT OF MY--
DAMMIT, WOULD YOU JUST SHUT UP?
Sigh...
YOUR "JOB" WAS BABY-SITTING THE PRODIGY, RIGHT?
LUCKY YOU, SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE FINALLY FREE FROM THAT.
HUH? HOW DID YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT?

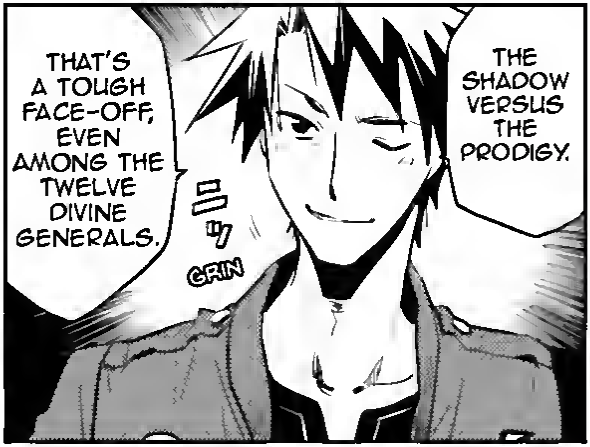
YEAH, WELL...
SHE WAS THE CAUSE OF THAT INCIDENT LAST SUMMER.
THEY COULDN'T GIVE THE PRODIGY FREE REIN FROM DAY ONE...
SO NATURALLY THEY'D MAKE YOU HER OVERSEER.
WELL ...
...THE ONMYO AGENCY NEEDED AT LEAST MINIMAL "INSURANCE."
HER TYPE 1 CERTIFICATION WAS INDEFINITELY SUSPENDED, AND SHE'S BEEN UNDER HOUSE ARREST FOR SIX MONTHS.
NOW SHE'S BEEN ENROLLED IN ONMYO PREP TO TRY TO TEACH HER SOME OF THE SENSE THAT SHE WAS LACKING.
BUT THAT KID WAS ALSO A POSTER GIRL FOR HER FIELD.
THE AGENCY WAS WORRIED ABOUT PR BACKLASH, SO THEY'VE BEEN HIDING HER NAME AND HUSHING THINGS UP.
陰陽師
呪術界の次世代ヒロイン
WELL, AT ANY RATE, SHE OBVIOUSLY DIDN'T GET A NORMAL EDUCATION.
...WAS HER FAILURE TO DEVELOP BASIC COMMON SENSE DUE TO HER FAMILY ENVIRONMENT... OR SO THEY SAY.
THE HIGHER-UPS THINK THE PRIMARY REASON FOR DAIRENJI'S RAMPAGE...

Heh.
...AND?
...EVEN IF THEY DO TRY TO HIDE THE DAIRENJI NAME, THE TOP BRASS STILL CAN'T SEEM TO COME DOWN ON HER THAT HARD.
THEY'RE DEFINITELY LETTING HER OFF LIGHT, BUT...
Sigh
I SEE...
AND IF SOMETHING SHOULD HAPPEN, THE PRINCIPAL AND I ARE HERE, TOO.
WELL, I SUPPOSE ONMYO PREP WAS CHOSEN AS THE PLACE FOR HER RE-EDUCATION BECAUSE...
...IF ANYTHING SHOULD HAPPEN, THE AGENCY CAN DEAL WITH IT "INTERNALLY."
OH, TSUCHIMIKADO, HUH?
NOT A TEACHER, A STUDENT!
HUH? WAIT, WHO ELSE IS TEACHING HERE?
BUT AREN'T THEY FORGETTING SOMEONE CRUCIAL?

THAT CEREMONY WAS A REAL SPECTACLE.
WASN'T THAT HARUTORA KID THE ONE WHO HELPED NATSUME TAKE DOWN THE NUE?
IT'S NO LAUGHING MATTER! THOSE TWO THWARTED THE PRODIGY'S TAIZAN FUKUN RITUAL, DIDN'T THEY?
THAT'S ONE HELL OF A CONNECTION!
I GUESS SO.
I don't know the details, but...
AND WHAT'S MORE, THE PRODIGY SPECIALIZES IN THE RESEARCH OF IMPERIAL MAGIC, THE SAME SPECIALTY AS YAKO TSUCHIMIKADO!
THEY MUST KNOW THAT MUCH, BUT THEY STILL--
Hey now.
WATCH YOURSELF BEFORE YOU SAY TOO MUCH, JIN.
IN THE END, THE RUMORS ABOUT NATSUME ARE JUST THAT.
THAT MIGHT AS WELL BE TRUE, WHEN PEOPLE KEEP BASING THEIR ACTIONS ON THE ASSUMPTION THEY ARE.
AND EVEN THAT DAMNED "O" HAS ALREADY STARTED MOVING IN THE SHADOWS...
WE'RE ONLY GOING TO HAVE MORE TROUBLE FROM HERE ON OUT.


NO NEED TO WORRY. THE TSUCHI-MIKADOS HAVE A VERY RELIABLE HOMEROOM TEACHER.
MORE LIKE A HEATED THROW-DOWN. THEY'LL BE FIGHTING IN NO TIME.
SURE, THAT WAS ONE HEATED CONFESSION, BUT I'M SURE THEY'LL BE FRIENDS IN NO TIME.

I HATE TO DISAP-POINT YOU, BUT...


THAT'S A TOUGH FACE-OFF, EVEN AMONG THE TWELVE DIVINE GENERALS.
GRIN
THE SHADOW VERSUS THE PRODIGY.

...AS OF TODAY, SUZUKA IS AN ONMYO PREP STUDENT, TOO.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE ONMYO AGENCY WANTS, BUT...
...WE WON'T BE ALLOWING ANYTHING TO HAPPEN TO ANY OF OUR PRECIOUS STUDENTS.

WOW...
Hmph.
IT'S MY JOB.
THAT WAS PRETTY COOL, PROFESSOR.
THE SCHOOL HALLS HAVE CHANGED BUT...
...ONMYO PREP IS STILL A SPECIAL PLACE.
IT SHOULD HAVE A GOOD INFLUENCE, EVEN ON DAIRENJI.
...

...I WONDER WHAT...
...SHE'S UP TO NOW...
...ZENJIRO.
URK!
AT ANY RATE, ONMYO PREP CAN HANDLE WHATEVER MAY COME OUR WAY.
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.
HAVE YOU PAID YOUR RESPECTS TO THE PRINCIPAL YET?
ALREADY DONE.
OH!
SPEAKING OF THAT, JIN...

WHAT? JIN, DO YOU MEAN--
CALM DOWN, IT'S NOTHING TO GET WORKED UP ABOUT.
SHE'S STILL IN GREAT HEALTH.
WHAT'S THIS, NOW?
YOU FINALLY SOUND LIKE AN ACTUAL EXORCIST.
IS THE PRINCIPAL... FEELING UNWELL?
WAS IT JUST ME, OR HAVE ALPHA AND OMEGA'S SPIRIT ENERGY GOTTEN WEAKER?
B-BUT...?
BUT...
COME ON, ZENJIRO.
...
SHE SEEMS TO BE AWARE OF HER OWN DECLINE, TOO.
THAT OLD WOMAN ISN'T GETTING ANY YOUNGER.

I DO JUST FINE, AS LONG AS I'M ONLY FACING SPIRITUAL DISASTERS!
SH-SHUT UP!
REALLY?
AN ONMYOJI SHOULDN'T WEAR THEIR HEARTS ON THEIR SLEEVES.
THUMP
DON'T MAKE THAT DEPRESSING FACE AT ME.
ANYWAY, YOU SHOULD BE WORRYING ABOUT MISS SUZUKA'S NEXT MOVES.
BY THE LOOK OF HER, SHE'S GOING TO CAUSE ALL SORTS OF TROUBLE.
Well...
SURE, AS A THIRD PARTY.
BUT WHEN IT COMES DOWN TO IT, I CAN'T CONTROL HER ACTIONS, ONLY RESPOND TO THEM.
YOU SAID YOU'D HANDLE ANYTHING THAT HAPPENS AT ONMYO PREP, RIGHT?

IT MIGHT BE BECAUSE THEY'RE MY OWN STUDENTS, BUT...
...THOSE TSUCHI-MIKADOS ARE SOMETHING ELSE.
PERHAPS THIS SUZUKA WILL JUST WRITE THEM OFF AS ENEMIES, OR PERHAPS...
Well.
AT THE LEAST, I'LL MAKE SURE THEY DON'T GET INTO TOO MUCH TROUBLE.
...THAT IS WHAT THEY CALL "BEING AN ADULT."
DING...
YAY
DONG
YAY
DING
LUNCHTIME.
DONG...
SNEEEAK...
YAY
YAY
GURK!
HEY, HARUTORA!

WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?!
WHAT WAS THAT THIS MORNING?!
SAME CLASS AS LAST YEAR
Whaaaa!
YOU GAVE SUZUKA "THE PRODIGY" DAIRENJI HER FIRST KISS?!
WHEN AND HOW DID YOU MANAGE TO DO THAT?!
WEREN'T YOU AT SOME BRANCH SCHOOL IN THE STICKS BEFORE YOU CAME HERE?!
C-CALM DOWN, KYOKO!
Y-YOU DON'T--
THIS ISN'T A JOKE! THANKS TO YOU I COULDN'T PAY ATTENTION IN CLASS ALL MORNING.

IF IT WAS NATSU-ME--
WELL, NO, ACTUALLY I'M REALLY GLAD IT WASN'T--
BUT WHY?
CLAMOR
WE WANT THE WHOLE STORY ...!
ANSWER HER, HARU-TORA!
YEAH, YEAH!
CLAMOR
WHY THE HECK WAS IT YOU?!
CLAMOR
TELL IT TO US STRAIGHT, TSUCCHI!
DON'T YOU GET IT, HARU-TORA?
SHE'S SUZUKA DAIRENJI, THE PRODIGY!
SHE'S SO FAMOUS THAT EVEN ORDINARY CITIZENS KNOW HER NAME!
SHE'S SUCH AN IDOL IN OUR FIELD THAT SHE'S PRACTICALLY THE ONMYO AGENCY SPOKES-PERSON!
I-I GUESS SO..
AND YET!

SHE'S A REAL FIRST CLASS STATE ONMYOJI ...
...THE YOUNGEST EVER TO PASS ONMYO MAGIC TYPE 1!
SHE'S NOT JUST A CUTE, MANUFAC-TURED LITTLE CELEBRITY!
AS A STUDENT, SHE'LL BE THE OBJECT OF EVERYBODY'S ADMIRATION! SHE'S A STAR!
SH-SHE WILL, HUH...?
SO...!
GLARE!
WHY WAS SHE TALKING ABOUT K-K-KISSING A FAILING STUDENT LIKE YOU...
...WHOSE ONLY GOOD POINT IS A HALF-ASSED PEDI-GREE?!
ISN'T THAT WEIRD? IT'S WEIRD, ISN'T IT?! IT'S TOTALLY WEIRD!!

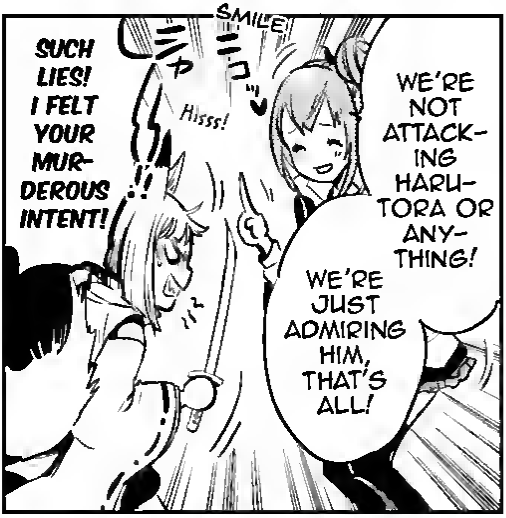
NO FAIR KEEPING SECRETS, HARUTORA!
C'MON, AT LEAST JUST TELL US WHAT HAPPENED, OKAY?
Yeah!
Yeah!
Yeah!
Yeah!
ANSWER ME ALREADY!
OR IS IT THAT YOU CAN'T ANSWER ME?
BECAUSE YOU DID SOMETHING THAT YOU CAN'T ANSWER FOR ?!
IT'S OKAY, HARUTORA!
TWINKLE
WHAT HAPPENED? WERE YOU TWO ACTUALLY BOYFRIEND AND GIRLFRIEND?
TWINKLE
WAS IT REALLY JUST A KISS?! OR... MORE...?!
TELL US, YOU JERK!
YEAH! GIVE IT TO US STRAIGHT, HARUTORA!
DOOOOOM...
WAIT...
P-PLEASE, JUST W-WAIT--
ENOUGH!

ボ!!!
POOF!
STAND DOWN AT ONCE!
YOU ILL-MANNERED BRUTES!
TMP!
GLARE!...
IF YOU DON'T QUIET DOWN AS MASTER HARUTORA COMMANDS...

SWING
Aahh!
Aahh!
BACK!
SWING
KON?!
BACK, I SAY!!
SWING

Wheeze
Wheeze
W-W-WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?! I AM ALWAYS CALM AND COLLECTED!
IF THEY INTEND TO H-H-HARM YOU, I--
YOU SHOULD CALM DOWN, TOO!
OH, KON, SWEETIE!

WELL, MAYBE I WAS A LITTLE CONCERNED ...
WHAT ABOUT YOU, KON? AREN'T YOU CONCERNED?
GLANCE


SMILE!
SUCH LIES! I FELT YOUR MURDEROUS INTENT!
Hisss!
WE'RE NOT ATTACKING HARUTORA OR ANYTHING!
WE'RE JUST ADMIRING HIM, THAT'S ALL!

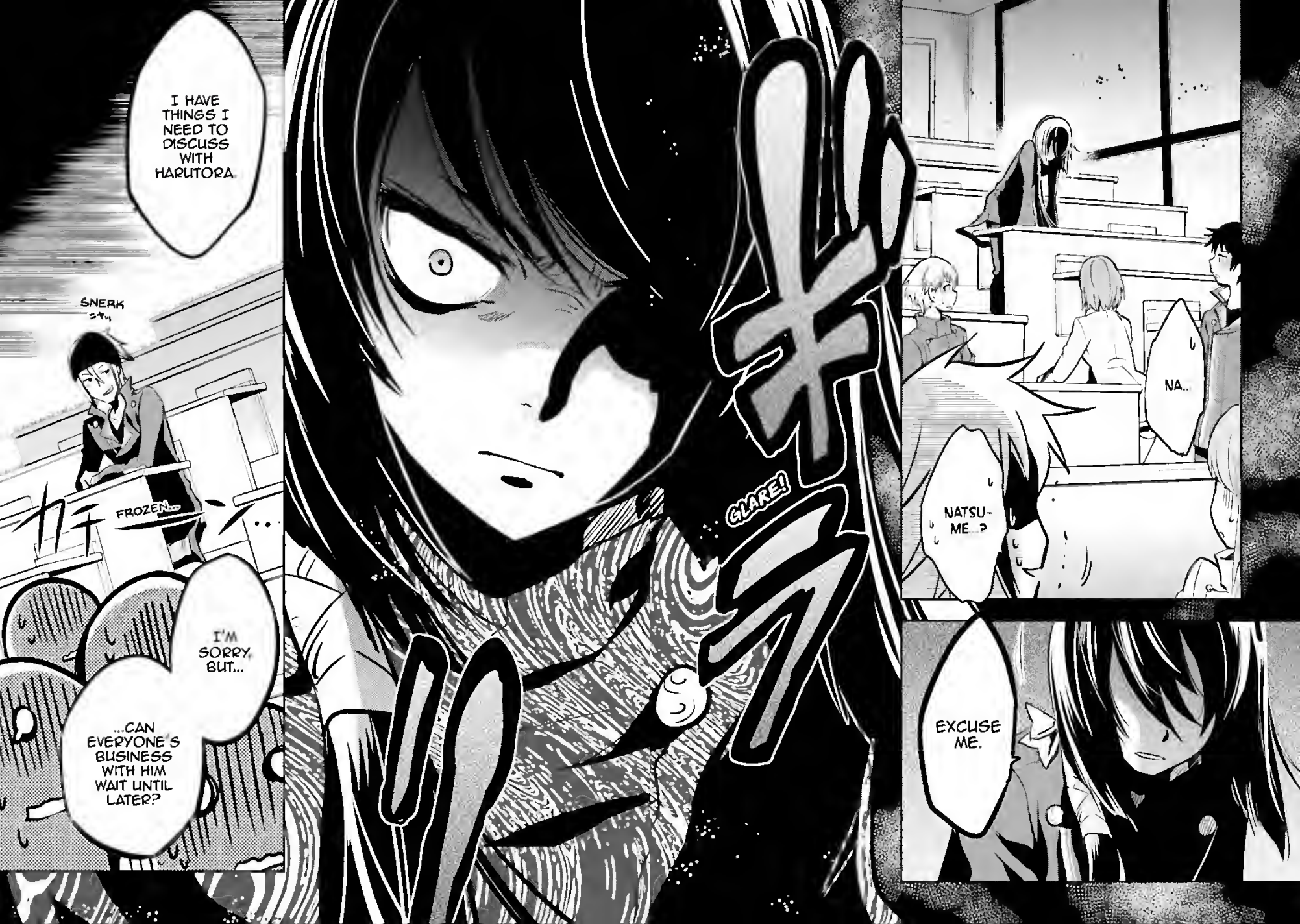
O-OF COURSE! MY VERY ROLE IS TO PROTECT MASTER HARUTORA!
WELL, THEN SHOULDN'T YOU BE CONCERNED?
HOW CAN YOU GUARD HIM IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT SORT OF RELATIONSHIP HE HAS WITH A DIVINE GENERAL?
W-WELL, I...?!
PLUS, DIDN'T SHE SAY SHE'D KISSED HARUTORA?
DO YOU KNOW WHAT A KISS IS?
IT'S A LIP-LOCK, AN EMBRACE...
...A "SMOOCH"!
LI...
EMB...
SMOO ...?!
BLU-UU-UUSH!
RIGHT?

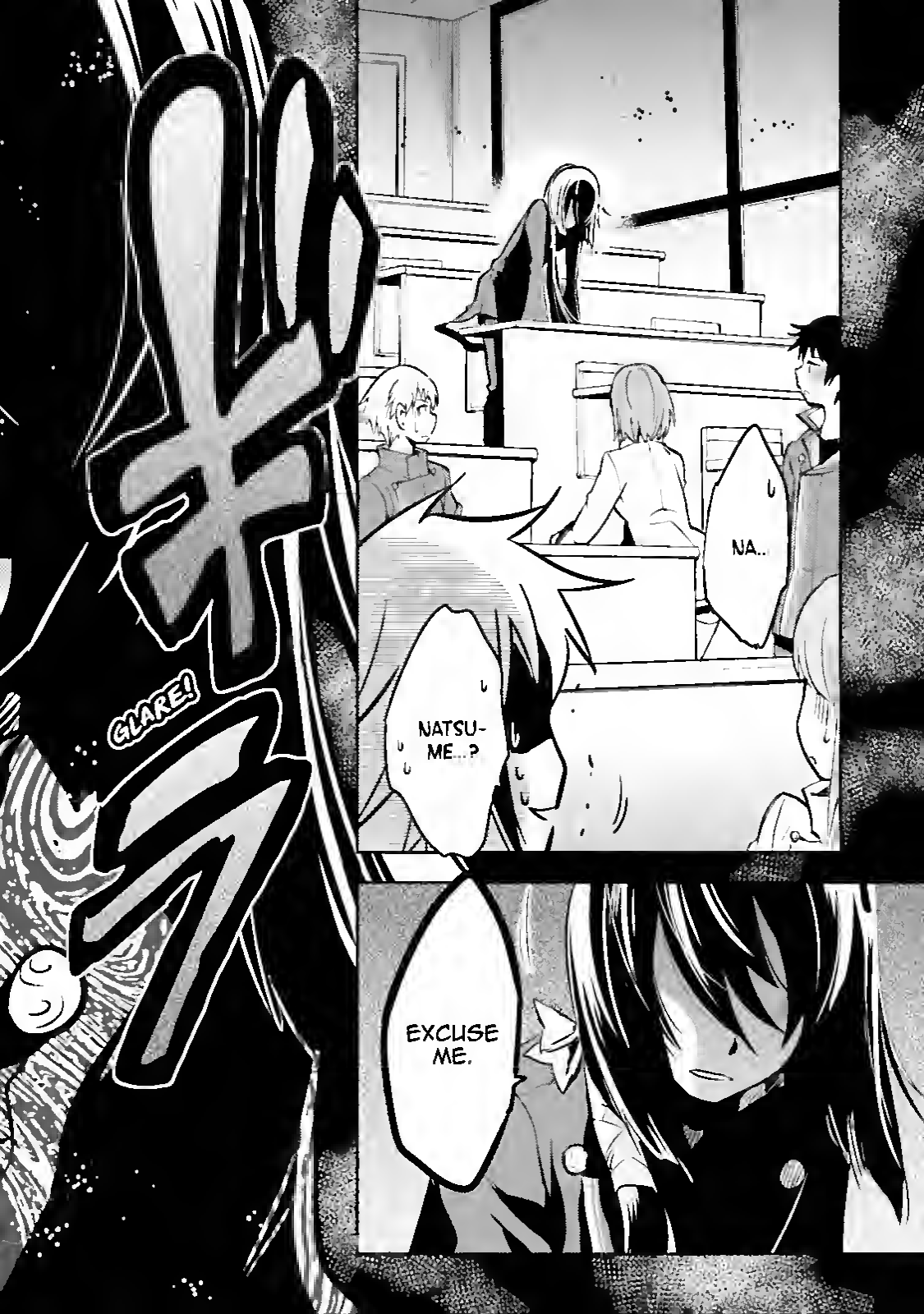
THWACK!
W-WRONG?!
AS HIS FAMILIAR, YOU OUGHT TO BE CONCERNED! HE'S YOUR BELOVED MASTER, AFTER ALL!
AM I WRONG, KON?!
SHIVER
SHIVER
...
...ちら
GLANCE
はぁぁ
Sighhh...
Huh?
OH, YEAH! DID YOU KNOW, TOJI?
You went to the same school, right?
Oh!
COME TO THINK OF IT, YEAH!
HOW ABOUT IT, TOJI?

Mutter
OH, RIGHT! AND THEN THE NEXT DAY, HOKUTO...
Mutter
...IF IT'S TRUE, THEN...
...IT WAS PROBABLY THAT NIGHT AT THE FESTIVAL.
HMM, WELL...
...I HADN'T HEARD ABOUT A KISS, BUT...
おおおっ!?
Ohhh?!

"NIGHT OF THE FESTIVAL"
『祭りの夜』
Woow!
Omigod!
Kyaaaaahhh!
Whoaaa
OMIGOD!
KON?! DON'T LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT! PLEASE!
...
TOJI, YOU BASTARD ...!
YOU REALLY HAVE BEEN KEEPING SECRETS, HARUTORA.
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU HID IT EVEN FROM A PAL LIKE ME.
SOOO...

LOOM!
..ARE YOU GONNA SPIT IT OUT, HARUTORA...?
W-WAIT--
SLAM!
TURN...


I HAVE THINGS I NEED TO DISCUSS WITH HARUTORA.
SNERK
カチ
FROZEN...
I'M SORRY, BUT...
...CAN EVERYONE'S BUSINESS WITH HIM WAIT UNTIL LATER?
GLARE!
NA..
NATSU-ME...?
EXCUSE ME.


GLARE!
NA..
NATSU-ME...?
EXCUSE ME.

I HAVE THINGS I NEED TO DISCUSS WITH HARUTORA.
SNERK
FROZEN...
I'M SORRY, BUT...
...CAN EVERYONE'S BUSINESS WITH HIM WAIT UNTIL LATER?

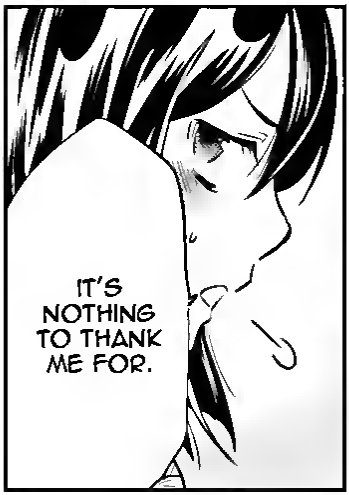
NATSUME, LISTEN TO ME!
IT WASN'T LIKE THAT AT ALL!
WELL... THAT IS... WE DID DO SOMETHING KIND OF LIKE A KISS, BUT...
...BUT IT WASN'T LIKE THAT!
H-HEY! YOU REMEMBER, RIGHT? SHE PUT THAT FAMILIAR IN MY STOMACH!
SWEAT
SHE HAD HER FAMILIAR HOLD ME SO I COULDN'T MOVE!
SWEAT
SHE WAS UPSET...
...B-BECAUSE SHE FIGURED OUT I WAS PRETENDING TO BE YOU...
SWEAT

WHY AM I... ... PANICKING LIKE THIS?
...AND SHE WAS BEING SPITEFUL...
SO...SHE DELIBERATELY DID THAT IN FRONT OF...
I THINK SUZUKA THOUGHT SHE WAS MY GIRLFRIEND OR SOMETHING...
あせ SWEAT
あせ SWEAT
...A-AND THAT FAMILIAR WE TALKED ABOUT, HOKUTO...
SHE WAS THERE, TOO!
...I HAVE TO CLEAR THIS UP, NO MATTER WHAT!
A-ANYWAY, EVEN IF SHE SAYS WE KISSED, IT WASN'T LIKE THAT!
IF I DON'T CLEAR UP THIS MISTAKE...
NO...
ENOUGH.
SHE DID THAT JUST NOW TO MAKE FUN OF ME...
SOMEHOW...!!

WHIRL!
NO, C'MON, YOU'VE GOTTA LISTEN TO ME--
I SAID...
...THAT'S ENOUGH!
HUH?
I C-COULDN'T HELP BUT KNOW, RIGHT?
I ALREADY KNOW, SO YOU DON'T NEED TO RELATE ALL OF THE DETAILS!
I ALREADY KNOW!
BUT... NATSUME, YOU REALLY KNEW ABOUT IT?
YES, I DID!
IT DOESN'T MATTER!
I, UH--
HI-URK!
C-COULDN'T HELP... WHAT?

I uh you uh we uh...?!
あわわわ!?
HOW? DID I TELL YOU ABOUT IT BEFORE?
I-IT DOESN'T MATTER IF YOU DID! Y-YOU TOLD ME JUST NOW, DIDN'T YOU?!
HUH? BUT YOU JUST SAID, "YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO SAY ANYTHING" ...

W-WHAT DO YOU MEAN?! NOW YOU'RE JUST PICKING AT SILLY DETAILS!
I F-FIGURED IT ALL OUT FROM THE FACT THAT SHE PLANTED THAT FAMILIAR IN YOU!
Y-YOU DID?
? ?
なぜ
Isn't this kinda backwards?


IT'S NOTHING TO THANK ME FOR.

ANYWAY, I'M JUST GLAD YOU BELIEVE ME.
TH-THANKS...

WELL, STILL.
THANKS.
SMILE
...
MUMBLE
...STUPID-TORA.
ANYWAY... LET'S PUT THE WHOLE K...KI... THING BEHIND US.
Ahem!
WE HAVE A MUCH MORE SERIOUS PROBLEM.
W-WHAT?
HAVE YOU FORGOT-TEN?
GASP!

LAST SUMMER, I MET THAT GIRL FACE TO FACE.
AND SHE GOT A GOOD LOOK AT ME, TOO.
OF COURSE I DIDN'T FORGET!
I RE-MEMBER. BUT HOW DOES--
PLEASE, THINK BACK.
WHAT WAS MY APPEARANCE LIKE AT THAT TIME?
...OH.
INDEED.

SHE MUST HAVE SEEN ME...
...DRESSED IN PRIESTESS' ROBES.
AS A WOMAN.
N-NO, WAIT!
SUZUKA COULDN'T HAVE KNOWN WHAT "NATSUME" LOOKED LIKE BACK THEN!
YES, THAT'S TRUE... BACK THEN.
SHE WOULDN'T HAVE REALIZED THAT I WAS NATSUME TSUCHI-MIKADO.
SHE WAS QUITE CONVINCED THAT "NATSUME" WAS A BOY.
BUT...
...SHE SAW MY FACE.
IF SHE SEES ME AGAIN, NOW...
...SHE'S BOUND TO REALIZE THAT "NATSUME" AND "THAT PRIEST-ESS GIRL" LOOK THE SAME...
OH, CRAP!
AT THE CERE-MONY--
NO.
I PROMPTLY USED AN INVISIBILITY SPELL TO CONCEAL MY PRESENCE THEN.

B-BUT...?
YES...
BUT FROM NOW...
SHE DIDN'T MEET MY EYES EITHER.
SHE SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN AWARE OF ME.
I'M SAFE FOR NOW.
NATSUME IS FAMOUS AT ONMYO PREP.
SO, SHE'D STAND OUT JUST FOR THAT.
EVEN WORSE...
AND...
...IF SUZUKA SEES NATSUME'S FACE...
...SUZUKA WAS TRYING TO CONTACT HER IN THE FIRST PLACE ABOUT THE TAIZAN FUKUN RITUAL.
THERE'S NO WAY SHE WON'T BE INTERESTED IN NATSUME NOW THAT SHE'S ENROLLED HERE.

...THE ODDS ARE HIGH THAT NATSUME'S MALE DISGUISE WILL BE DONE FOR!
AFTER SCHOOL...
DING
DONG...
CHATTER
...SO?
CHATTER
WHISPER
WHAT WAS THE DEAL WITH THAT THING THIS MORNING?
CHATTER
ARE YOU GONNA FIGHT WITH THAT BRAT AGAIN?

I DON'T KNOW.
...
...DOES SHE REALLY HAVE IT OUT FOR YOU GUYS THAT BAD?
I ONLY HEARD THE GIST OF THE INCI-DENT LAST SUMMER, BUT...
WHOA, WHY ARE YOU SO SERIOUS?
CLATTER!
HARU-TORA?
HUH?
SHFF...
NATSU-ME...
...YOU EXPLAIN IT TO HIM.

I'M GOING TO TALK TO HER...
HA...
HARUTORA ?!
END OF CHAPTER 29

TOKYO RAVENS

CHAPTER 30
UPPERCLASS-
MEN

HUH? SHE WENT HOME?
WHEN?
DO YOU KNOW WHERE THEY WERE WAITING FOR HER?
N-NO...
...I DON'T KNOW MORE THAN THAT...
1-A
JUST A MINUTE AGO.
SHE JUST LEFT THE CLASSROOM, SO I DON'T KNOW IF SHE WENT HOME OR NOT, BUT...
...I THINK SOME-ONE CAME TO PICK HER UP.
MAYBE SHE'S WITH THEM?
DAMN, I MISSED HER...
UM... SIR?

NO..!!
ARE YOU REALLY MISS DAIRENJI'S OLD BOYFRIEND?
Yay!
WAS WHAT SHE SAID AT THE CEREMONY TRUE?!
Yay!
Yay!
Omigod--!
CHATTER
CHATTER
TURN...
AND THE WAY HE SAID "WE"!
OOH! DID YOU HEAR HOW HE PAUSED?!
WE JUST... WE BARELY KNOW EACH OTHER!
HEY, WAIT.
EVEN IF WE'RE IN THE SAME CLASS, SHE'S A DIVINE GENERAL.
IT'S NOT LIKE WE CAN JUST GO UP TO HER AND START TALKING.
YOU GUYS ARE SUZUKA DAIRENJI'S CLASSMATES... AREN'T YOU?
DID YOU TALK TO HER?

AND SHE WENT OFF SOMEWHERE DURING THE BREAK.
THERE WERE PEOPLE IN OUR CLASS WHO WANTED TO ASK ABOUT THIS MORNING, TOO.
I GUESS THEY NEVER GOT THE CHANCE TO.
I SEE...
I THOUGHT SHE WAS JUST PUTTING ON THAT ACT TO SPREAD A BUNCH OF HALF-TRUTHS, BUT...
...WAS SHE REALLY JUST DOING IT TO GET REVENGE ON ME?
SO! WHAT'S THE TRUE STORY?!
THANKS! BYE!
SCUTTLE SCUTTLE!

FOR NOW, SHE MIGHT NOT HAVE GONE HOME YET...
GOING OUT THE FRONT DOOR WOULD ATTRACT ATTENTION, SO MAYBE MISS POPULAR IS WAITING AT THE BACK DOOR.

KON...
Not you, too!
...ARE YOU SURE THAT'S THE COMPLETE TRUTH?
W-WITH ALL DUE RESPECT ...
MUTTER
SAYING WE KISSED WHEN IT TOTALLY WASN'T EVEN A KISS ...
MUTTER
WHAT A PAIN, THOUGH ...
MUTTER
H-HOWEVER...!
POOF!
WEREN'T YOU LISTENING WHEN I EXPLAINED IT TO NATSUME?
THAT WAS THE HONEST TRUTH.
THE LADY IS A MAIDEN OF TENDER YEARS.
SURELY SHE WOULD NOT...
...GRANT YOU A K-K-KISS SO LIGHTLY?!
Sigh
LISTEN, KON...

FORGET "GRANTING," SHE WAS THE ONE WHO KISSED ME WHILE I COULDN'T MOVE.
PLUS, A KISS OR TWO IS NOTHING TO MAKE A FUSS OVER FOR MODERN KIDS NOW-ADAYS.
Y-YOUR CLASS-MATES WERE RAISING QUITE A LARGE FUSS...
THEY JUST THOUGHT IT WAS FUNNY!
ANYWAY, I DIDN'T THINK ANYTHING OF IT AND NEITHER DID SUZUKA!
SHE WAS JUST TRYING TO BULLY ME THIS MORNING!
TH-THEN...
NOD
NOD
MASTER HARUTORA, YOU H-HAVE NO...FEEL-INGS OR SUCHLIKE... FOR THAT PERSON?
NONE! ABSO-LUTELY NONE!!
Oho!
I...I UNDERSTAND COMPLETELY...
WHY, IN THAT CASE...
FLIT
FLIT
TWITCH
TWITCH
FLINCH!
PLEASE EXCUSE MY RUDE-NESS--
!!

?!
WHOOSH
SWOOSH!
WHAT'S WRONG, KON?!
!

A FEMALE STUDENT...?
UM...
I DIDN'T NOTICE HER THERE AT ALL!
WHO...
WAS SHE USING AN INVISIBILITY SPELL?
HER PRESENCE IS STRANGELY FAINT...
LITTLE GIRL.
HUH?
A LITTLE GIRL.
OH... UH, YOU MEAN KON?
A LITTLE FOX GIRL.
...

A FEMALE STUDENT...?
UM...
I DIDN'T NOTICE HER THERE AT ALL!
WAS SHE USING AN INVISIBILITY SPELL?
WHO...
LITTLE GIRL.
HER PRESENCE IS STRANGELY FAINT...
HUH?
A LITTLE GIRL.
OH... UH, YOU MEAN KON?
A LITTLE FOX GIRL.
...

A CUTE LITTLE FOX GIRL.
THIS IS KON.
SHE'S MY DEFENSE FAMILIAR, AND--
A CUTE LITTLE FOX GIRL FAMILIAR.
...
UH... WELL...
GLANCE
WHAT'S WITH HER?
THEREFORE, YOU ARE HARUTORA TSUCHI-MIKADO.
WELL, YEAH, SO--
OH.
YOU'VE HEARD OF ME?

THEN HOW DO YOU KNOW ABOUT ME AND KON?
I WAS NOT AT THE ENTRANCE CERE-MONY.
HUH? THAT'S NOT IT?
OH, RIGHT, THAT THING THIS MORN-ING...
THING THIS MORN-ING?
DID A LITTLE GIRL PROFESS HER AFFECTIONS TO YOU AT THE CERE-MONY?
ANSWER THE QUESTION!
ANYWAY, SHE DIDN'T PROFESS ANYTHING, AND SHE'S NOT A LITTLE GIRL!
FUME
...
DON'T GIVE ME THAT CONFUSED LOOK!
I'M THE ONE WHO DOESN'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON!
FUME
FUME
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU, ANYWAY?
WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME?

I AM YOUR SENIOR.
Y-YOU'RE A THIRD YEAR?
SORRY--I-I MEAN, PARDON ME!
I THOUGHT YOU WERE NEW ...
IT'S BECAUSE I'M SMALL.
NO, THAT'S ...
BE-CAUSE I'M A LITTLE GIRL.
THAT'S WAY OFF!
IT'S ALL RIGHT. PEOPLE OFTEN MISTAKE ME...
FOR A FIRST YEAR? OR FOR A LITTLE GIRL?!
I APPEAR VERY YOUNG.
DON'T WORRY! YOU DEFINITELY DON'T LOOK LIKE A LITTLE GIRL!
OH, WHAT-EVER.
SIGH...
ANY-WAY...

LISTEN, UH...?
SENIOR.
OKAY THEN, SE-NIOR.
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
NOTHING, REALLY. I JUST HAPPENED TO NOTICE YOU.
BECAUSE OF THE LITTLE GIRL.
WHAT?! YOU LIKE LITTLE GIRLS THAT MUCH?!
STA-AA-ARE...
SHFF...
NO.
IT WAS BECAUSE I KNEW THE SON OF THE TSUCHIMIKADO BRANCH FAMILY HAD JUST SUCH A FAMILIAR.
HUH?

I HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE TSUCHI-MIKADO.
I'VE SEEN THE SON OF THE MAIN HOUSE FROM A DISTANCE.
YOU HAPPEN TO BE IN HIS VICINITY OFTEN.
...
SO THAT'S IT.
THE "TWO TSUCHI-MIKADOS" MUST BE PRETTY INTERESTING TO THE CURRENT THIRD YEARS...
OF COURSE...
THAT DOES NOT MEAN THAT I DISLIKE LITTLE GIR--
NOPE!
SE-NIOR ...
...I DON'T NEED ANY MORE OF YOUR PERSONAL INFOR-MATION.
BUT I THINK I'VE GOT THE PICTURE.
SO, ARE YOU SATISFIED NOW?

SHFF...
Hm?!
TROT
TROT
TROT
YES.
じっ
STARE
SHFF...
WHAT'S THAT?
HUH?

TREMBLE
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
IS SHE LAUGHING?!
OH, THIS?
IT'S A LONG STORY, BUT IT'S A MAGIC --
IT DOESN'T SUIT YOU.
NOBODY ASKED YOU!
TURN
WELL...
...SEE YOU AROUND.
TROT TROT TROT
WHAT WAS THAT...?
SLUMP...

HM?
HARU-TORA, IS THAT YOU?
Sigh...
Does so soothing...

HEY... KON?
COULD YOU GO INVISIBLE FOR NOW, PLEASE?
Y-YES! RIGHT AWAY, MASTER!
POOF!

OH...!
HEY!

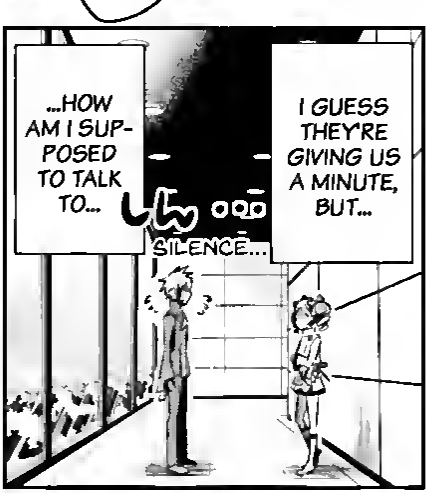
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
MR. OTO-MO?

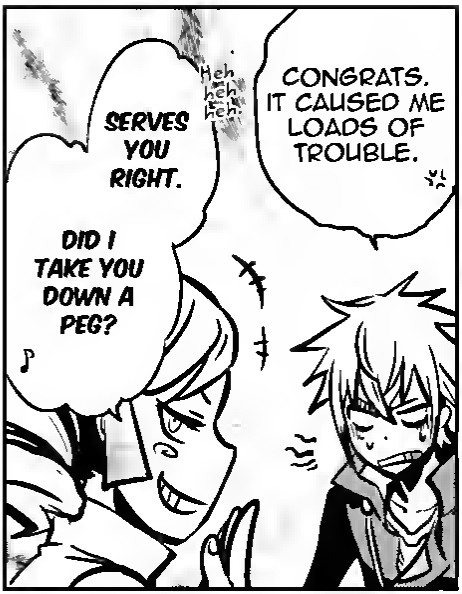
IT'S BEEN A WHILE!
Do you remember me?
SMILE
THANKS FOR HELPING WITH THAT NUE.
Oh!
MR. KOGURE... AND...

SMIRK
YOU LOOK AS STUPID AS ALWAYS, "SENIOR."
DON'T GO CASTING ANY GROSS, LONGING GAZES MY WAY, 'KAY?
GASP!
Hmph.

YOU'VE GOT FIVE MINUTES.
HARU-TORA, KEEP YOUR COOL, TOO.

HOW WAS IT?
LONG TIME, NO--
C'MON, KEEP IT TOGETH-ER.
THIS IS WHY YOU CAME HERE.
HUH?


...HOW AM I SUP-POSED TO TALK TO...
SILENCE...
I GUESS THEY'RE GIVING US A MINUTE, BUT...


CONGRATS. IT CAUSED ME LOADS OF TROUBLE.
Heh heh heh.
SERVES YOU RIGHT.
DID I TAKE YOU DOWN A PEG?

I REALLY HOPE IT CAUSED YOU PLENTY OF TROUBLE ...
THAT THING THIS MORNING.
Isn't it obvious?
Hee hee!
Omigod!
Whoaaaa
Wow
THAT THING THIS MORNING.

YOU TURNED AS WHITE AS A GHOST!
THIS BRAT...
OH, YOU LOOKED SO FUNNY! I NEARLY DIED LAUGHING!
GRIN
IF SO, IT WAS WORTH COMING TO ONMYO PREP.

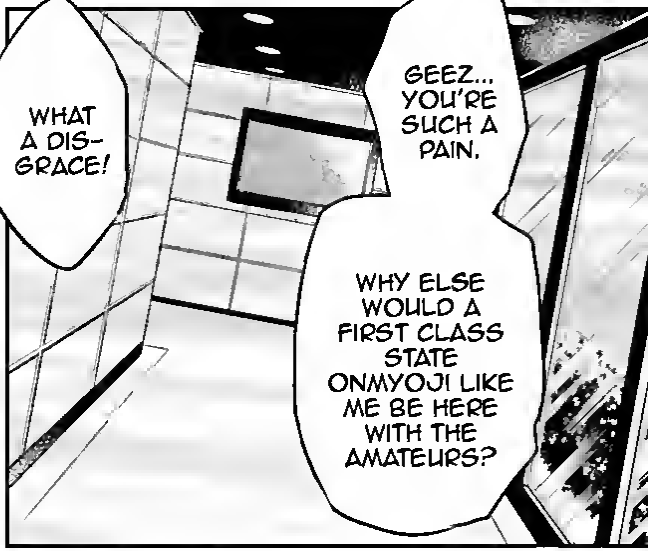
YOU AND I ARE IN A TOTALLY DIFFERENT CLASS.
Hmph!
I WON'T! I'M NOT AS STUPID AS YOU ARE.
DON'T GET TOO CARRIED AWAY WITH THAT GOODY-GOODY ACT.
...SO?
OF COURSE I DON'T GET IT, POOR LITTLE MISS DIVINE GENERAL.
YEAH, IT MUST BE SO TOUGH BEING AN IDOL.
OH, I GET IT.
CRACKLE
AND I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT SCHOOL HERE, YOU DUNCE.
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
THERE MUST BE SOME REASON.
Ha!
WHY SHOULD I EXPLAIN ANYTHING TO YOU?
How idiotic.
WHY ARE YOU AT ONMYO PREP?

HMPH!
HEY, DON'T BE LIKE THAT.
DIDN'T I GIVE YOU YOUR FIRST KISS, "HONEY"?

PUNISH-MENT? YOU MEAN FOR LAST SUMMER?
WHAT ELSE WOULD IT BE FOR?

ISN'T IT OBVIOUS?
MY PUNISH-MENT.
A SLAP ON THE WRIST.

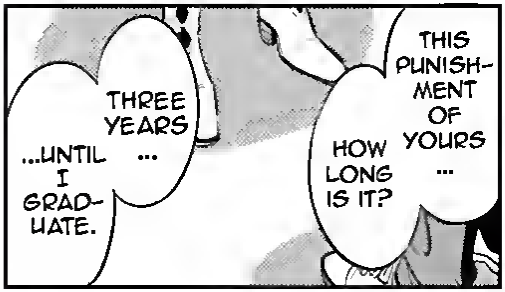
HMPH!
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR THAT FROM YOU!
...WOW, YOU POOR THING.

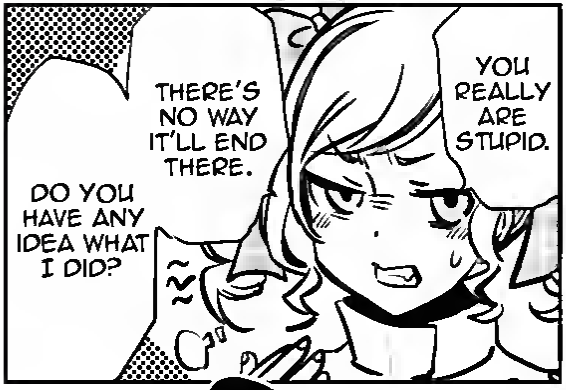

WHAT A DIS-GRACE!
GEEZ... YOU'RE SUCH A PAIN.
WHY ELSE WOULD A FIRST CLASS STATE ONMYOJI LIKE ME BE HERE WITH THE AMATEURS?

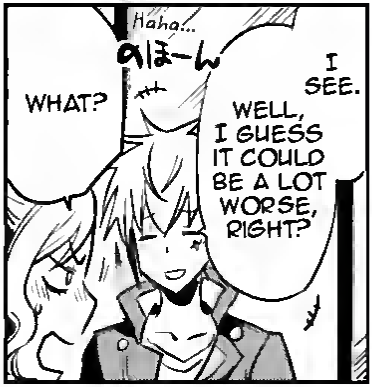
IF IT WASN'T FOR SOMEBODY... UGH, HOW PATHETIC.
THE TRUTH IS, I SHOULDN'T EVEN BE ALIVE.
I'M GLAD THAT SOMEBODY WAS THERE FOR YOU.
GOOD.
...
SNAP
HMPH.
...
...

I SEE...
...

AND YOUR BROTHER?
DID YOU GIVE HIM A PROPER BURIAL?
YEAH.


THIS PUNISHMENT OF YOURS ...
HOW LONG IS IT?
THREE YEARS ...
...UNTIL I GRADUATE.


YOU REALLY ARE STUPID.
THERE'S NO WAY IT'LL END THERE.
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT I DID?


Haha...
I SEE.
WELL, I GUESS IT COULD BE A LOT WORSE, RIGHT?
WHAT?

SWISH
!
I MIGHT AS WELL TELL YOU MYSELF.
WELL, I GUESS THAT TEACHER OF YOURS WILL TATTLE TO YOU EITHER WAY.

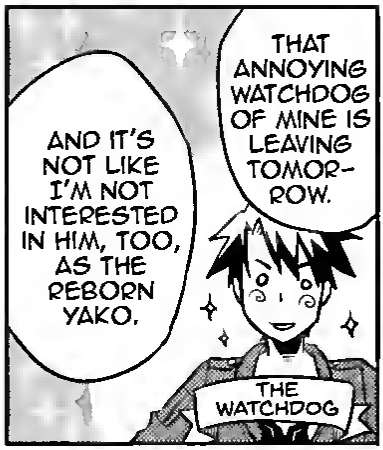
WHAT...?
WHAT IS THAT? A SPELL?
YEAH. IT SEALS UP MY MAGIC.
HUH? SO... WHAT? YOUR MAGIC IS ALL SEALED UP NOW?
I mean... IS THAT PART OF THE PUNISH-MENT, TOO?
COULD YOU NOT ASK QUES-TIONS WITH OBVIOUS ANSWERS?

STARE
じっ
HUH...
はっ
GASP!
!
SO SEALING UP MY POWER IS A LOSS TO THE WHOLE FIELD OF ONMYO MAGIC!
WHAT THE HELL, RIGHT? ISN'T IT STUPID?
BLU-UU-USH!
W-WELL, IT'S ONLY A TEMPORARY SEAL IN THE END!
I WAS A RESEARCHER, AFTER ALL...
Ah!
I'M WARNING YOU NOW, I COULD STILL TAKE YOU SINGLE-HANDEDLY!
SO DON'T GET TOO FULL OF YOURSELF!
!!!
FUME!!
NAH, I DON'T PLAN TO PICK ANY FIGHTS WITH YOU.

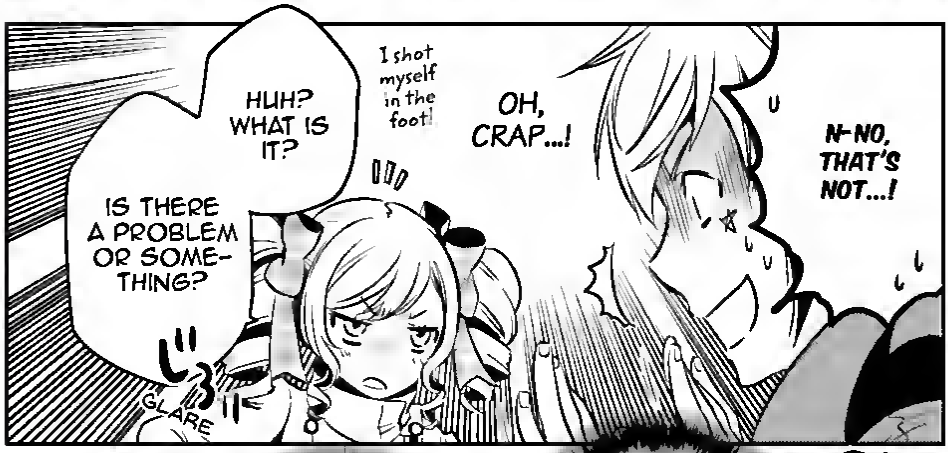
GURK!
WHAT ABOUT YOU? AND THIS MORNING?
ARE YOU STILL MAD AT ME?
...HA.
YOU'RE SO FULL OF YOURSELF!
WHY WOULD I OBSESS OVER EVERY LITTLE THING LIKE YOU DO?
I JUST HAPPENED TO SEE YOU, SO I THOUGHT I'D HAVE A LITTLE FUN AT YOUR EXPENSE, THAT'S ALL.
HUH...? MAYBE THIS GIRL...
...IS EASIER TO FIGURE OUT THAN I THOUGHT...
BUT REMEMBER!

OH, AND THAT DOESN'T JUST GO FOR YOU.
YOU TAKING ME ON WAS RIDICULOUS WHEN YOU STOP TO THINK ABOUT IT.
YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT NOW.
Ha ha
WHAT HAPPENED LAST SUMMER WAS JUST AN EX-CEPTION!
GURK!
NATSUME TSUCHI-MIKADO.
THE NEXT HEAD OF THE TSUCHI-MIKADOS, TOO!
...I DIDN'T F-FOR-GET...
THE WAY SHE'S TALKING...
DOES THIS MEAN...
YOU HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN? I SUCKED OUT HIS POWER SO EASILY!
STUN!
THEY TREAT HIM LIKE A GENIUS HERE, BUT WHAT AN AMATEUR!

...SHE STILL HASN'T REALIZED THE TRUTH ABOUT NATSUME?
YOU KNOW, I NEVER DID GET TO SEE NATSUME TSUCHIMIKADO. WHAT'S HE LIKE?
HE MUST HAVE MORE SENSE THAN YOU, RIGHT?
IF I DON'T FIND SOME WAY TO DEFLECT HER INTEREST AWAY FROM NATSUME...!
W-WELL, UH...
Hmm?
WELL, EVEN IF HE IS THE REBORN YAKO...
...HE'S STILL JUST TAKING CLASSES HERE. HE ISN'T EVEN QUALIFIED!
HE'S REALLY NO MATCH FOR ME--
HA HA!
Well...
NOBODY'S EVEN SURE IF HE'S THE REAL REBORN YAKO...
What?!
YOU DOUBT THE JUDGMENT OF A YAKO SPECIALIST LIKE ME?
NO... BUT EVEN HE'S NOT REALLY SURE!
AND WHAT ABOUT THAT SOUL MAGIC, HUH? IT'S ALL PRETTY UNCLEAR, ISN'T IT?
Hmph.
WHAT GIVES?


THAT ANNOYING WATCHDOG OF MINE IS LEAVING TOMORROW.
AND IT'S NOT LIKE I'M NOT INTERESTED IN HIM, TOO, AS THE REBORN YAKO.
THE WATCHDOG

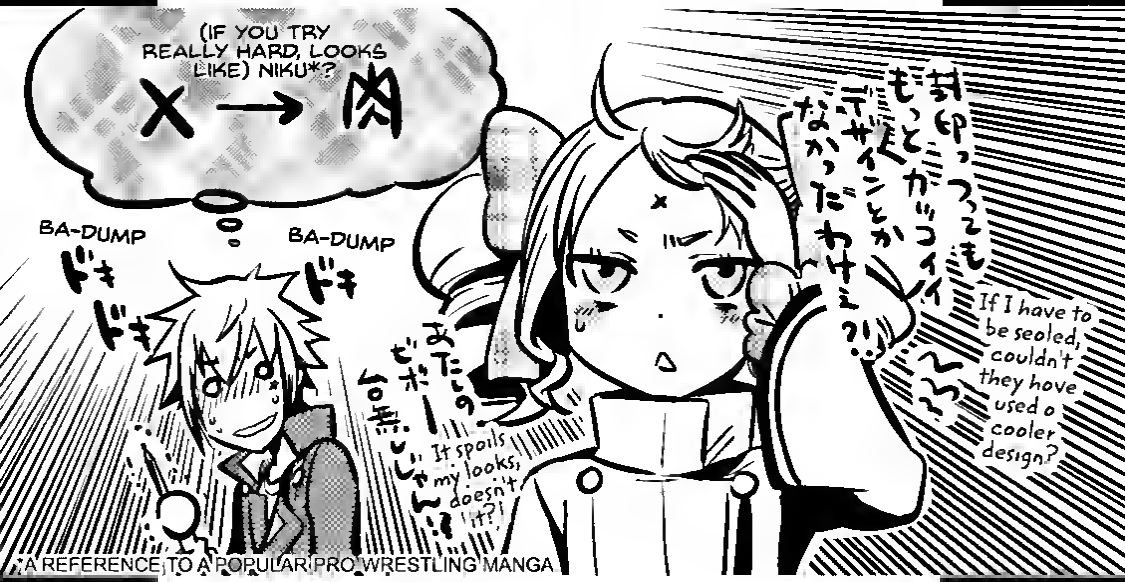
HUH?!
IF YOU REALLY WANT TO DENY IT, WHY DON'T YOU BRING ME TO MEET HIM?


HUH? WHAT IS IT?
IS THERE A PROBLEM OR SOMETHING?
GLARE
I shot myself in the foot!
OH, CRAP...!
N-NO, THAT'S NOT...!

IF I COME UP WITH A BAD LIE, SHE'LL CATCH ON FAST!
DAMMIT, I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING THAT QUICK!
IT'S JUST...
AN EXCUSE! I NEED AN EXCUSE!
W-WELL...
AND IF I TELL HER NATSUME DOESN'T WANT TO MEET HER, SHE'LL BE CURIOUS FOR SURE!

IF THERE'S NO PROBLEM, LET ME MEET HIM!
IT'S OKAY, ISN'T IT... "DARLING"?
WH...
WHAT AM I GONNA DO...?!
END OF CHAPTER 30

BONUS SKETCH


(IF YOU TRY REALLY HARD, LOOKS LIKE) NIKU*?
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
It spoils my looks, doesn't it?!
If I have to be sealed, couldn't they have used a cooler design?

*A REFERENCE TO A POPULAR PRO WRESTLING MANGA

AFTERWORD

HELLO!! THIS IS ATSUSHI SUZUMI. IT'S OUR 6TH VOLUME! ABOUT THREE YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE WE STARTED SERIALIZATION. WHEN WE WERE WORKING ON PASTING IN SOME SCENES FROM THE 1ST AND 2ND VOLUMES, THAT OLD ART WAS UNBEARABLE TO LOOK AT, EVEN TO ME. IT'S ENOUGH TO MAKE ME CRY... THESE KINDS OF THINGS MAKE ME SHARPLY REALIZE THAT, EVEN THOUGH I'VE BEEN A MANGA ARTIST FOR A WHILE NOW, I STILL HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO. AS I DRAW, I HOPE I'LL BE ABLE TO GROW AND MATURE ALONG WITH HARUTORA AND THE REST. TO MR. AZANO, MY SUPERVISOR, MY ASSISTANTS, AND MY AWESOME READERS... THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH!! AND I HOPE WE'LL MEET AGAIN IN THE NEXT VOLUME!

10/2012 ATSUSHI SUZUMI

STAFF & HELP
INAGI KAZAMORI + K.K. + KODAMA + SEKINE + CHISA MORI

YOU'RE ALL LIFESAVERS!

TOKYO RAVENS
Volume 6

KADOKAWA MANGA

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